

INCOREPORATE

ABSTRACT

The vast majority of people spend years, if not lifetimes, in a single urban environment. However, not everyone is automatically included in the society and the planning of new urban space. Social inclusiveness and sustainability is as important as physical factors but has long been disregarded in favor of more tangible subjects.

We want to lift the social questions on the agenda and incorporate them in architectural solutions. Instead of relocation or sweeping inconveniences under the rug, we propose an inclusive approach.

This thesis uses the architectural competition as a tool for exploring inclusiveness. The framework is the Schindler Award student competition; celebrating accessibility and with over 1000 entries this year, it is a platform for testing concepts and ideas about social sustainability and integration.

The incorporation of a drug addicts treatment and consultation function is central to the proposal and key to including one of the most excluded groups in the development of a new urban environment.

The end result of the thesis is a design proposal and a competition entry. The solutions aim at creative ways of handling architecture and accessibility in an integrated way rather than using bolt-on methods.

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INTRODUCTION

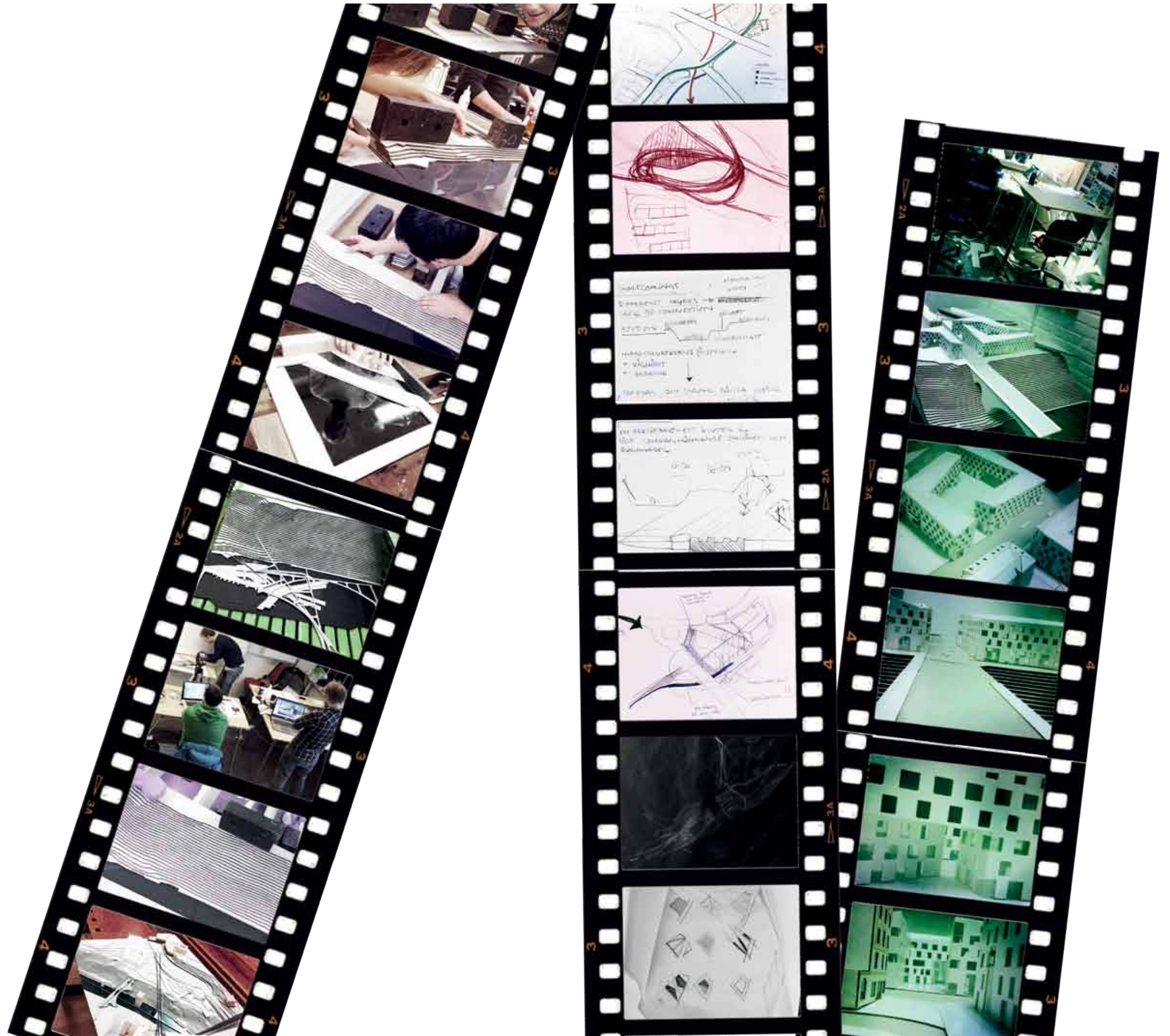
The Schindler Award is an architecture competition that challenges young architects to place “Access for All” at the center of their design philosophy. This year the competition takes place in the outskirts of Bern, Switzerland, and is focusing on urban designs that are characterized by inclusiveness and barrier-free mobility for people of all ages and capabilities.

“Access for All” is a design philosophy that envisions a built environment designed with the specific and changing needs of all its inhabitants in mind, irrespective of their age, status and physical capabilities.

It goes far beyond “bolt-on” measures such as improvised ramps and parking spaces reserved for special-needs drivers. Instead, it recognizes the urban landscape as a diverse environment where everyone – children, young people, parents, workers, the elderly and people with special needs – is able to move around freely and to share and enjoy public spaces.

We have decided to use the Schindler Award competition to investigate social inclusion and accessibility in our Master Thesis and to present our findings in the form of a competition entry.

THE PROCESS



ACCESSIBILITY AND SOCIAL INCLUSION

Accessibility is often referred to and simplified as the image of a character in a wheelchair. However, mobility is only one part of safe and reliable surroundings. The obstacles experienced by "disabled" people are now recognized as problems that will affect almost everyone at some point in our lifetime.

Social exclusion refers to processes where individuals and entire communities of people are systematically blocked from rights, opportunities and resources that are normally available to members of society and which are key to social integration.

Social inclusion being the opposite gives everyone equal opportunities and rights to these resources.

Since this year's Schindler Award competition is also addressing the issue of social inclusion we started to study related topics and similar situations. A study that influenced us during our continuous work.

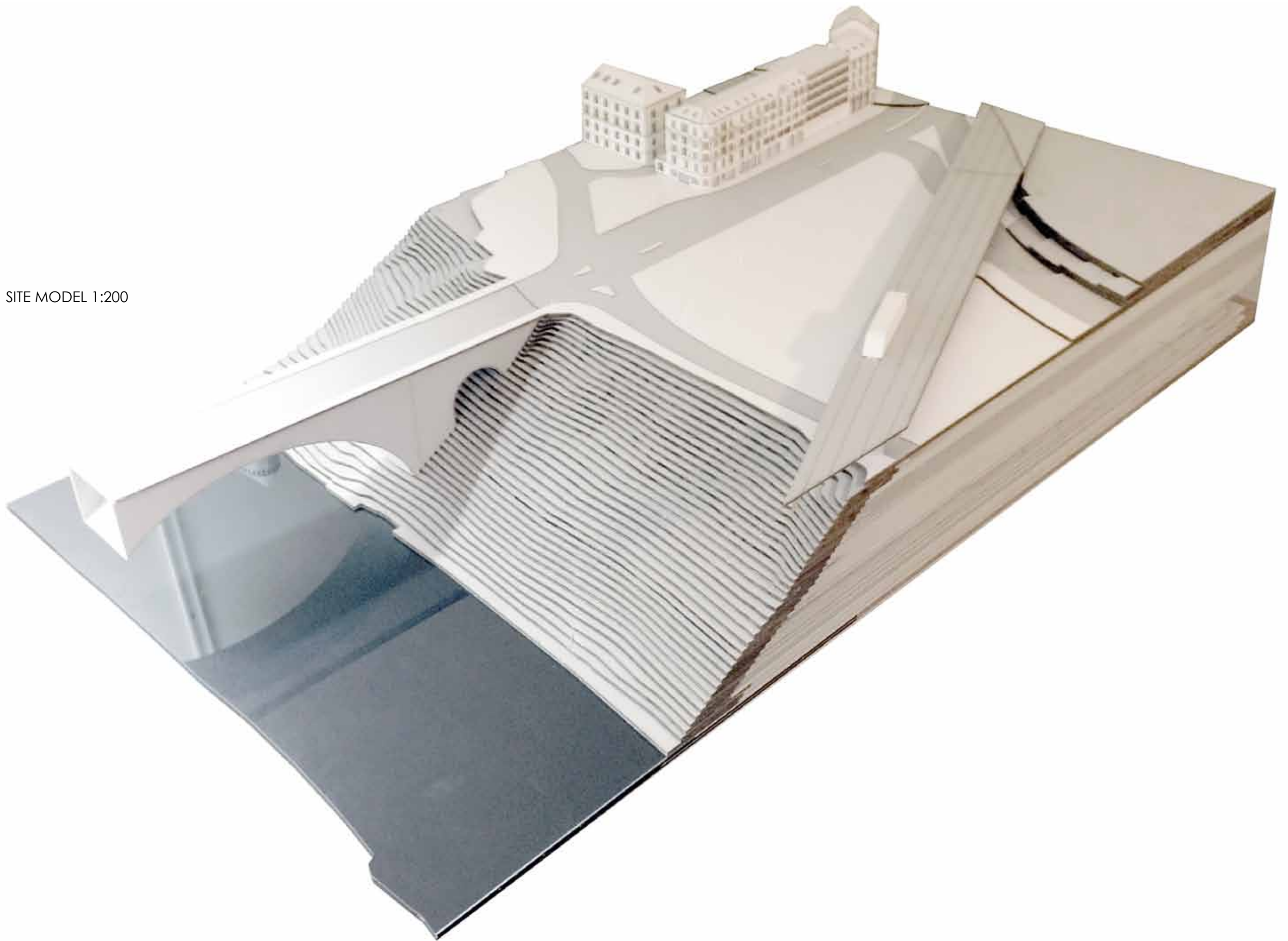
Socially inclusive spaces are accessible open spaces that belong to everybody. But what makes a space socially inclusive?

We felt a need of defining for ourselves what makes places feel like they belong to everyone and what makes it socially inclusive.

We identified a few conditions that we felt necessary for inclusive spaces.

1. The space can be used flexibly
2. The space can serve many individuals' needs
3. A place that all individuals feel comfortable in – no security issues
4. Local people feel protective of the space – it's theirs and they feel pride and actively enjoy the fact that it is also visited by people outside the area
5. The place is used regularly and by lots of people – increased feelings of safety and enjoyment
6. This space brings people together for a common goal and they agree on what that goal is

SITE MODEL 1:200



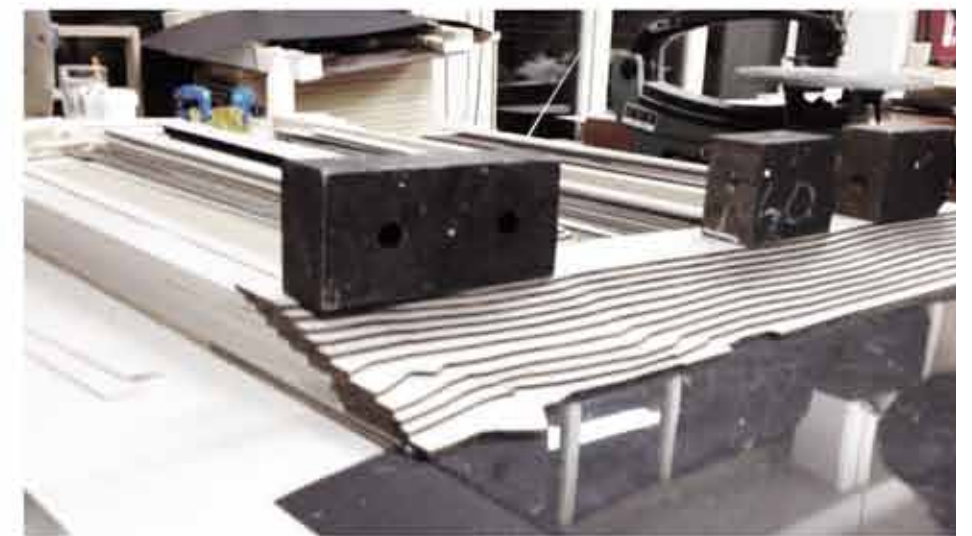
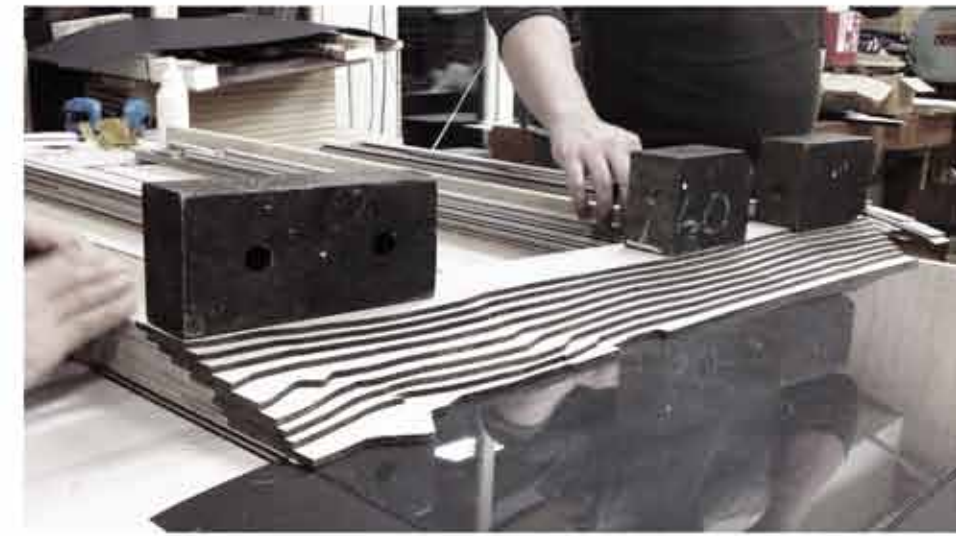
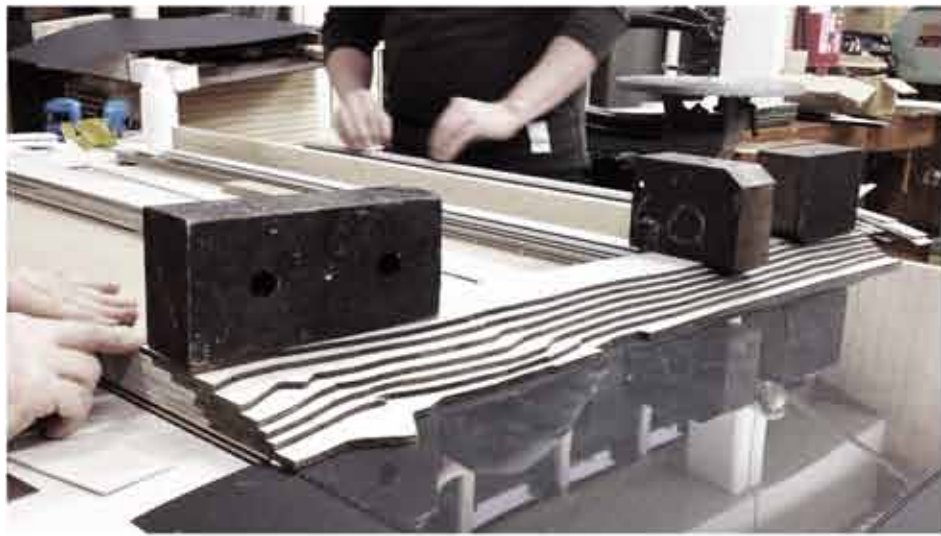
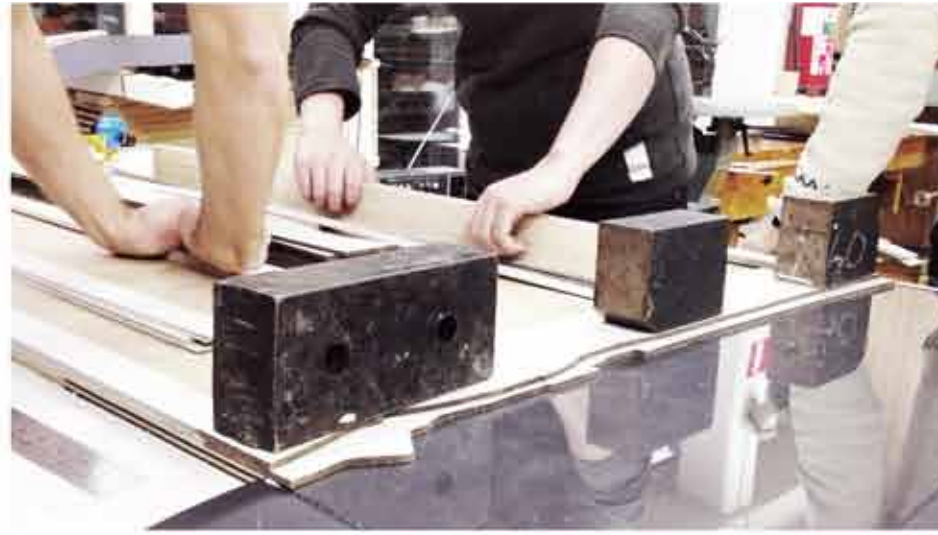
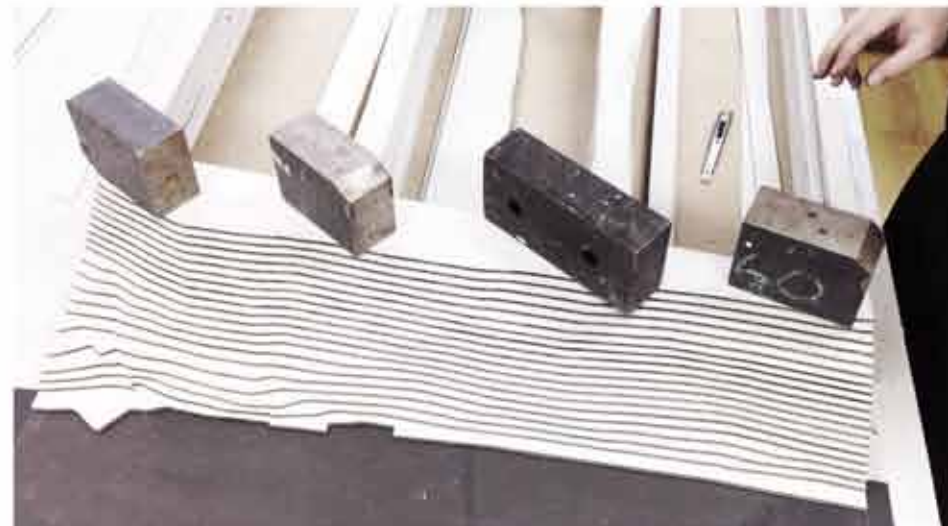
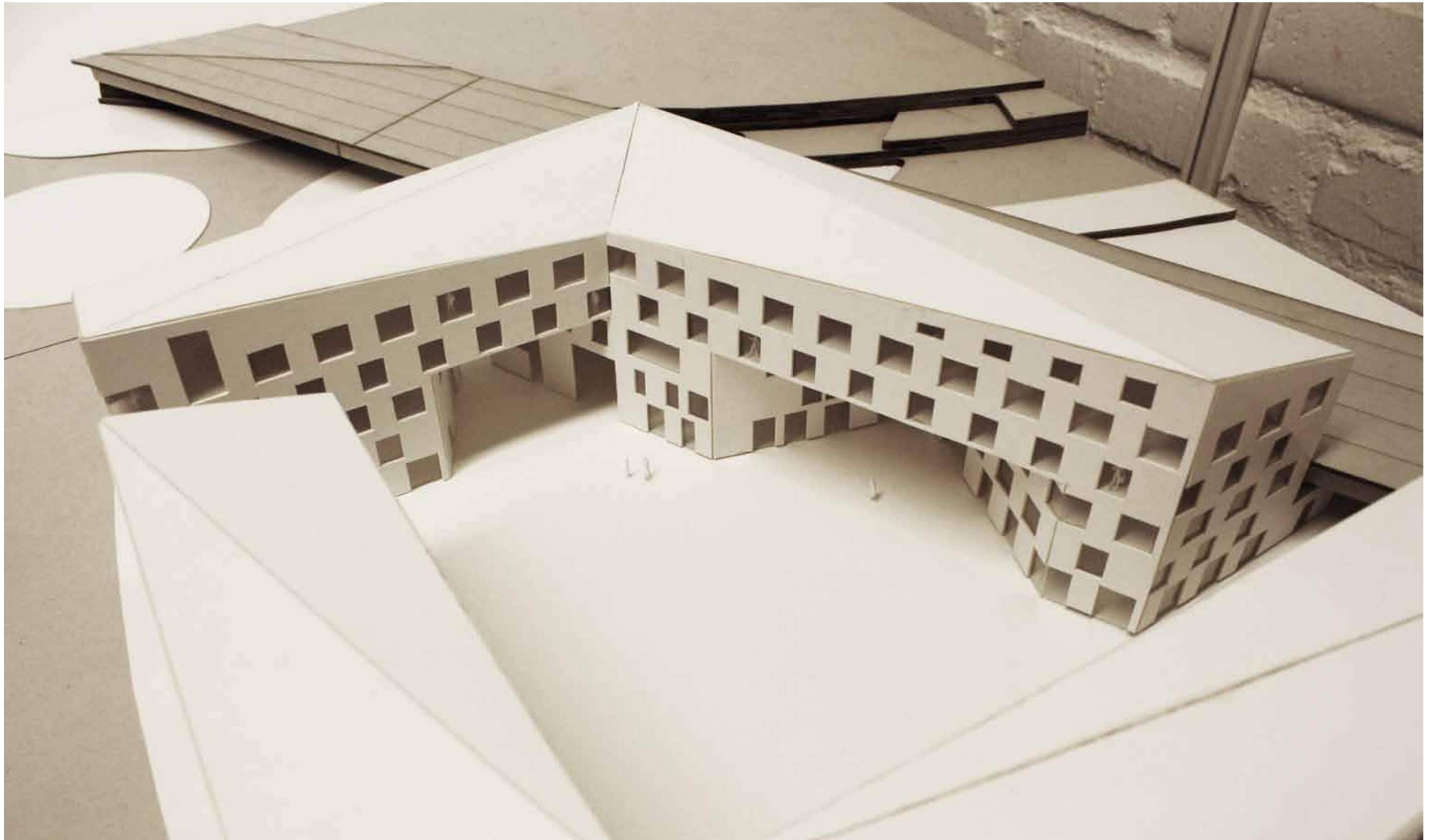


Image sequence showing the process of building the 1:200 scale model. Overlapping altitude curves are glued in layers over the glass water.





The finished site model



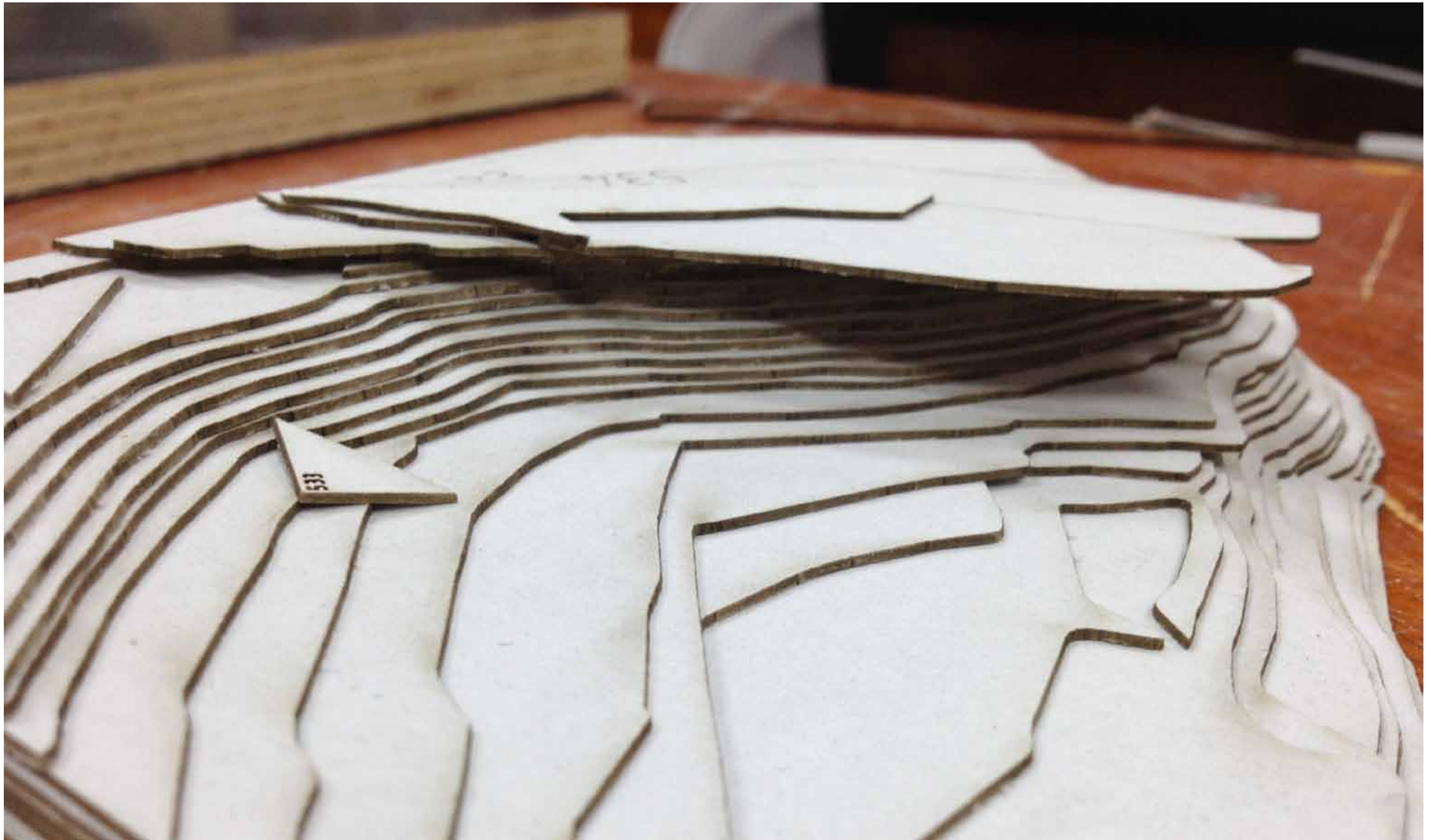
The model is used for the final presentation

SITE MODEL 1:1000

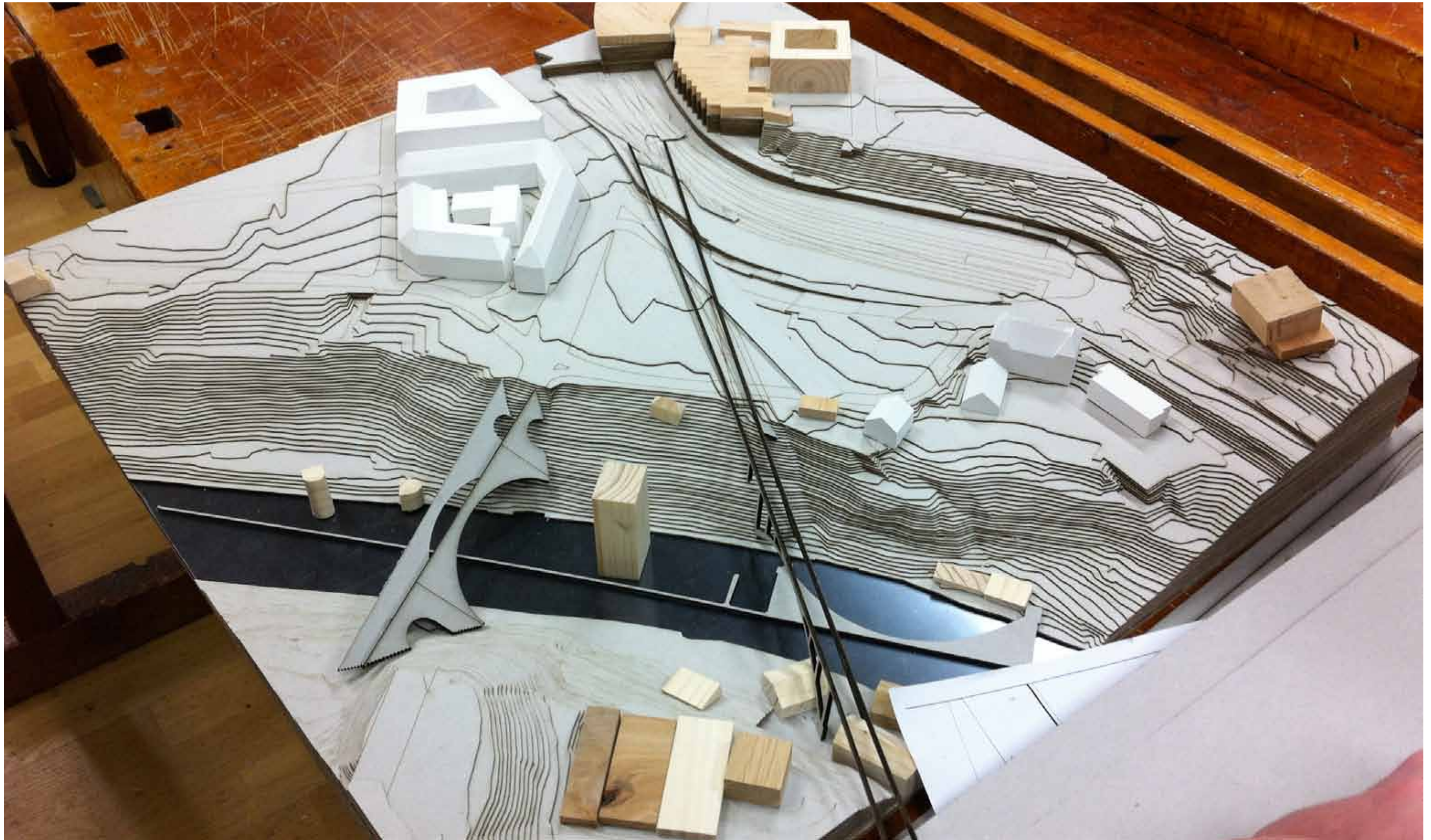




The 1:1000 site model is glued together. The sheets are hollow to save material and reduce the weight of the finished model.



Some of the altitude curve sheets before they are assembled.



The model is fitted with buildings and bridges crossing the valley.



The finished model

SUBFUNCTIONS OF THE AERO

- [illegible]

VEGAN: RENEWABLE CONCEPT

ENG MY HANDELPLAN MED FRAA GALLIETERE, SVAU TROKKINGEN
DE URAINA TILKORTSKOMMUNIKERING OG FLEKKEDE KRT
ATRAKTIVAE ANSLAGSOG AU PLATON LONE VARE KOMMUNIKASJ
AU TRAFIKKUNFUNKTUEL.

- [illegible]

RIVER VALLEY ACCESS

IDENTITY, "THE UNDOED WORD" ONE OF SEVERAL "UNDOED WORDS"
IN THE "UNDOED WORDS" OF THE "UNDOED WORDS"
-PAST

- "Kopie" Tauschen: "Hilfsgegenstände" wie z.B. Taschenrechner, Taschenkalender, ... SCHÜTTEN MATHE DEM ALGEBRA IN DER THEMATIK
- "Hilfsgegenstände" werden immer noch als Gegenstände betrachtet, denn diese haben ein Alter, ein Gewicht oder eine andere Eigenschaft. ALGEBRA
- Hilfsgegenstände: "Hilfsgegenstände" sind die Plättchen, die man bei einem Spiel mit den Plättchen "Hilfs" oder "Hilfs" benutzt.

INTEGRATION OF Social Services

DE FÖRALLAN RUGGARENA I KÖENINGEN MODIFIKERAR
OCH LÖRENINGEN ÄR HEM FÖR "DRÖGNADESTÄLLET"
DÄR DE TILLHANDAHÅLLER BEHOVEN FÖR DRÖGNADESTÄLLET.
STÄLLET ÄR UNDER STÄNDIG PRESS FRÅN ALLMÄNNHETEN SOM
TYCKER ATT DEN BÖRDE FÖLJAS BÖRST FRÅN
STADEN. DETTA SKULLE DÄREMOT INFÖRA EN SÄMLIG
EFFEKTIVITET AV SJUKHUSPROGRAMMET SOM BEHÖVS
DÄR NV. DÄRFÖR SKA MAN FÖRETA OMLOKALISERING
AV VERKSAMHETEN I EN NY BYGGNAD INOM TÄLLNÄS-
OMÅDET.

FÖR ATT UTRYTTA SJÄFVÄRD, SKALL ÄVEN "ÄIKTIGTILL"
OALOKALISERAS, I DENNA TILLÄGGS OCH EFTERFÖLJANDE
SÄGA INSTITUTEERNA ÄR FINANSIERADE AV UPPHÖR
STADSMODEL SVAL, FÖR ATT FÅ EKONOMI I DET HELL
DET ÄVEN INNEFÄTTA COMMERCIAL OCH KVALITÄT SOM
HÄR UT. EN MIX AV

STAMNINGEN (LÖSEN SÄJEDS) I ATT:

- Skapa en unik adress med en attraktivt användarnamn.
- Designa faciliteterna. Breda ut användarna programanskrift, integrera den i ett nytt komplex utifrån att användarna med attraktivitet för sig på användarna.
- Vår in det i det nya trafikmönstret / trafiklösningen

Form follows function

ARKITEKTUR ETT HJÄLPMEDEL TILL ATT
GÖRA MÅNGET TILGÄNGLIGT BÅDE
SPRIKT OCH I DEN FYSISKA MILJÖN

INCLUDE - INTERVIEW

FACILITETEN FÖR UTÖVTA SVARARFÖRÄGÅN-
SÄMVAL/PÅVERKAN UT-OM STADEN
INTEHÄR. PÅ SÅ SÄTT BIL. ÄR
MÄNNISKORNA INTEHÄR.



MOTIVATION FOR AG-SOLICITATION



Master Plan (Master plan: preliminary)

- FORMULERA ETT BEREKNINGSPROBLEM FÖR ATT TILGÅBOST SÅ MÅNGA BILKÖRARE I PROGRAMFORMULERINGEN SOM MÖJLIG
- FÖRFÄLLA EN EGEN ANVÄNDARSTYCKE FÖR BOKSTÄLLIGT MÅNGA PLANERINGAR
- EN MASTERPLAN I SKALA 1:1000 SOM GÅR MÅNDRAGS FÖRÄNDRING INFORMATION!
- OUTFORMA EN ÅRA BILKÖRARE MED HÖJD, ANTEKÄNNINGAR OCH HUVUDSYFTE
 - ORGANISATION AV OFFENTLIGA VÄGAR
 - TIDSBERÄKNINGAR, BILAR, KÖRSTYLLNINGAR, CYKLAR OCH FÖRÄNDRINGAR
 - SEKTORER SOM VISAR DET SOM BEHÖVS FÖR ATT FÖRSTÅ KONCEPTET
- VILKA DEN FÖRSLAGNA DISTRIBUTIONEN AV FÖRUTSEENDE ELLER ANVÄNDNINGAR OCH SÄKERHET I ETT SCHEMATISKT SKEDUL I SKALA 1:1000
- GÖR EN KLAR ÖVERSIKT ÖVER UTVECKLINGEN OCH INSLUTENheten DET FÖR MASTER PLAN PÅVERKAN
- SKALL VILKA DE REGELERNA "HUR SOM" ÖVER GÅR OCH NÄRSTÄLLTETTERNA I 3 SCHEMATISKA FÖRSLÄG
- SKALL EN RAPPORT ÖVER VILKA TIDAR VILKA TIDPUNKTERNA AV MASTER PLANEN TIL 3E MÅNDRAG
- RAPPORTEN SKALL SKILJAS PÅ TIDPUNKTERNA GEMEN MED OCH OCH, SÄKERHETEN, VILKA SKUTERMAN TIL ALTERNATIV, TIDPUNKTER ELLER HUVUD (3E MÅNDRAG) PÅ EN FÖRSTÄLLNING, SÅ VILKA HUR HUR TIL ALTERNATIVET PÅ EN 3E MÅNDRAG I ALTERNATIVET
- ANVÄND AV HUR DE TIDAR AV FÖRSTÄLLNINGEN SÅ 3E MÅNDRAG TIL TIL TIL OCH KOMMEN MED PROBLEM ATT LÄSA RAPPORTEN ANVÄND 3

Project Design

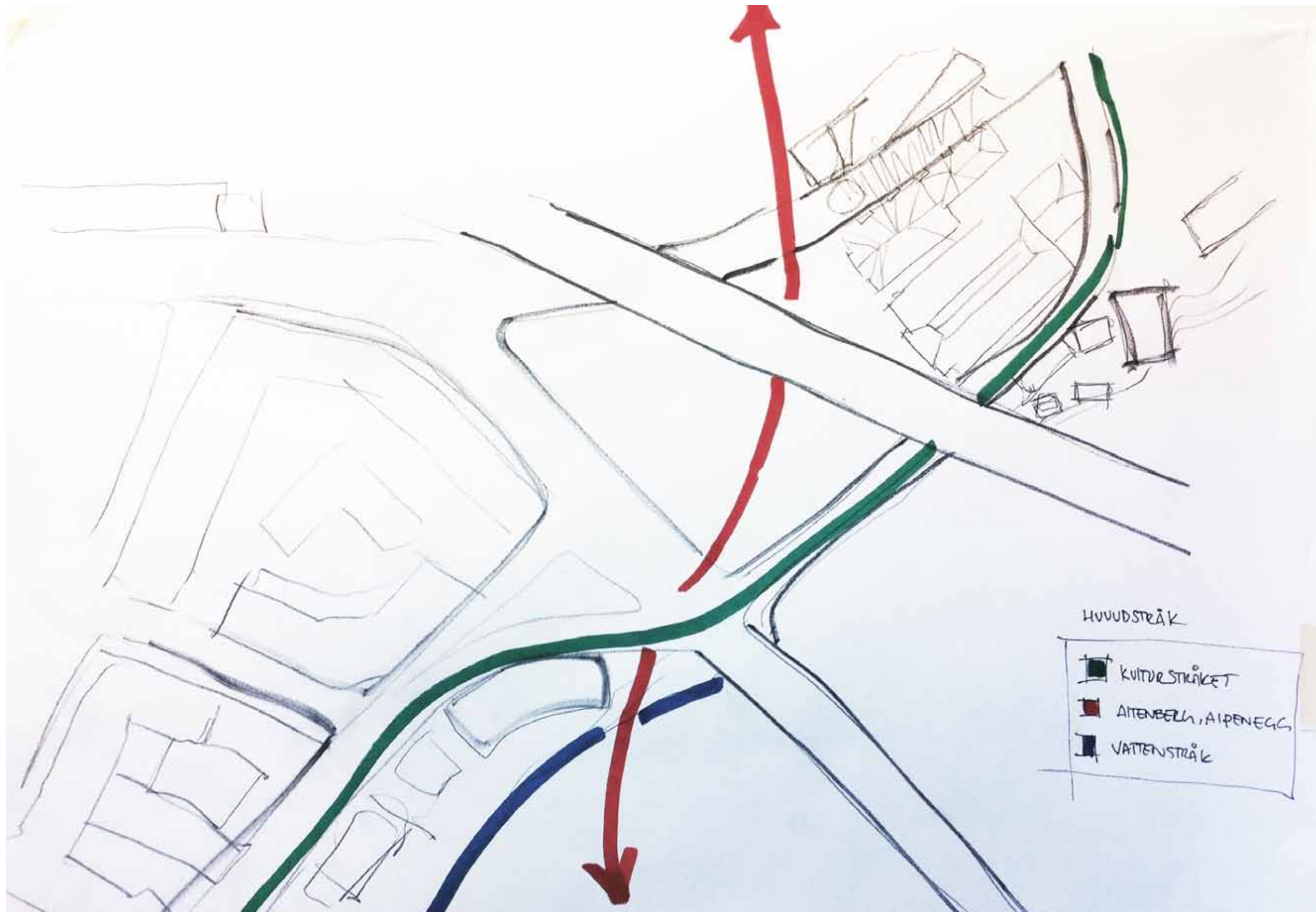
DELEN "PERFECT DESIGN" ÄR BEVILJAD TILL DEN SOM BEHANDLAR
DE SOCIALA FRÅGORNA.

- FÖRESLÅ / RITA ONTOLGIERINGEN AV BODENLÄGGET I DEN NYA BYGGNADEN.
- INKLUDERA ÄVEN ALLTISTUBLI OCH VISA KOR DEN ÄR INTEGRERAD I DEN NYA BYGGNADEN.
- INTEGRERA OCH ORGANISERA ALLA FUNKTIONER SOM LISTAS UNDER "SURFACE ALLOCATION" (KAPITEL 7)
- INTEGRERA ANDRA FUNKTIONER FÖR ATT FÅ EKONOMI I DET HELA
- RITA PLANER PÅ DENNA BYGGNAD I SKALA 1:200 / 1:100
- VISA RELEVANTA PLANER, SEKTIONER OCH FASADER OCH INTEGRERA SKEMATISKA RITNINGAR FÖR ATT FÖRKLARA LAYOUT OCH FUNKTION
- ARBETSPLATSERNA SKALL VARA TILLGÄNLIGA FÖR ALLA!
- HANDIKAPPSANPASSAT.

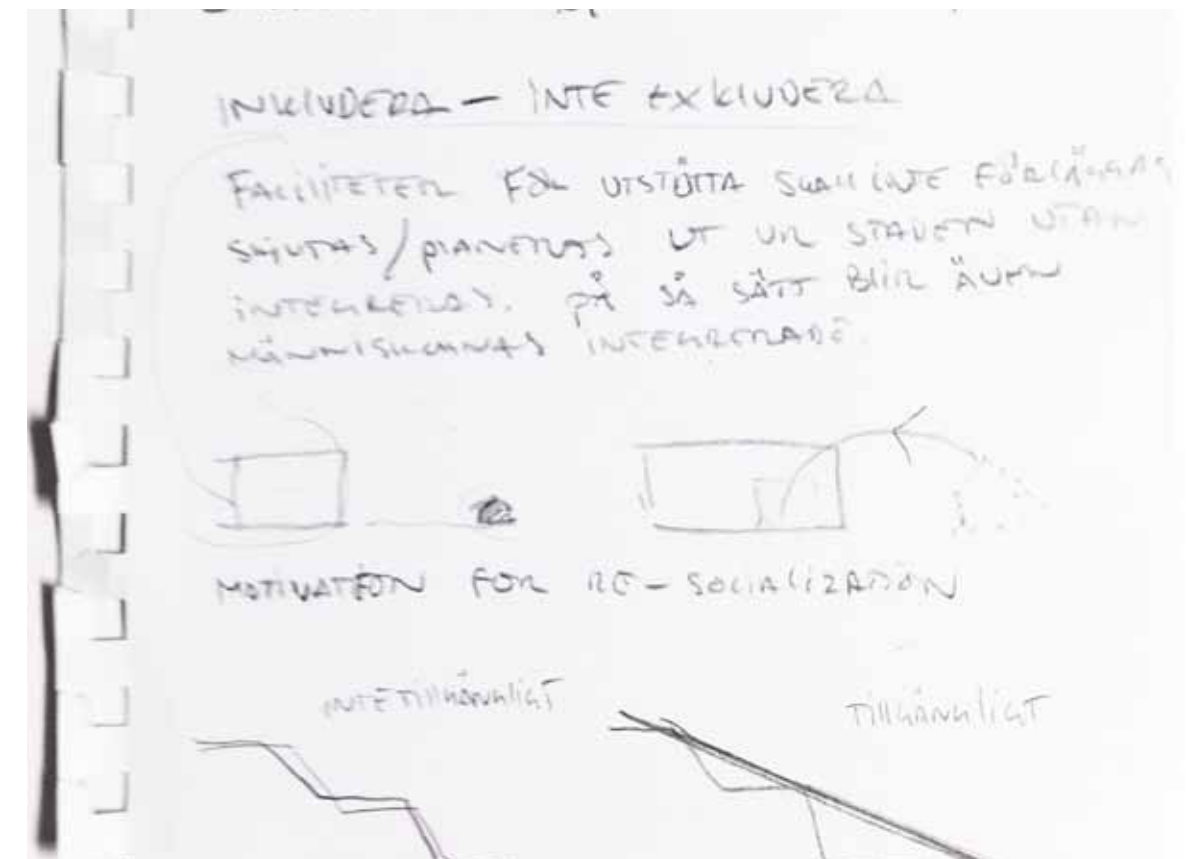
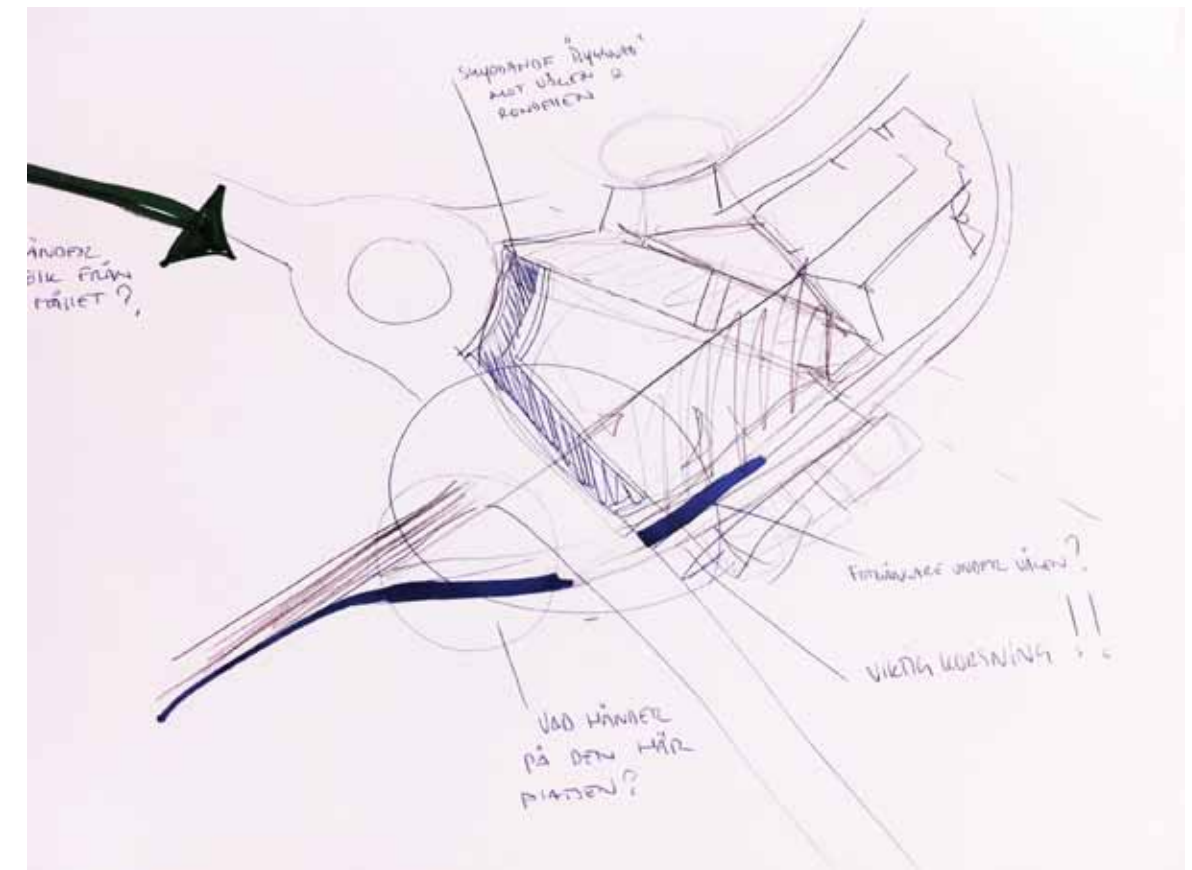
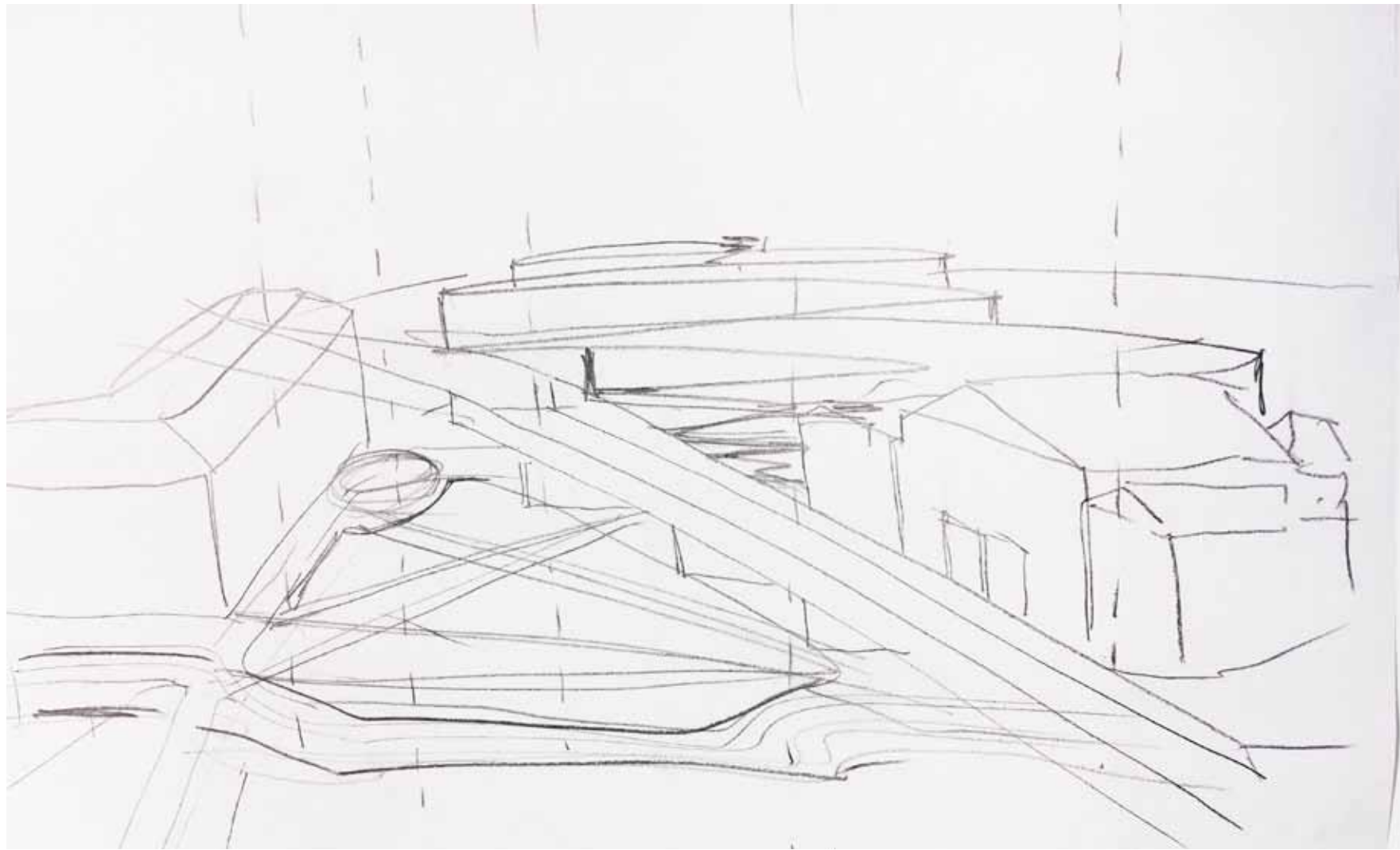
URBAN REPAIR CONCEPT (PROJECT PERIMETER)

- FÖRESLÅ ETT ARCHITEKTONISKT CONCEPT ÖVER PLANMÅLET OCH INKLUDERA BYGGNADET SOM DELVIS KOMMER INKRYPA DRÖMKONSULTATIONEN.
- RITA ETT ÖVERSICHTLIGT MARKPLAN / PLANÖSNING SOM VISAR DET OFFENTLIGA PLANET, TILGÅNGLIGHETEN OCH PLANÖSNINGEN FÖR ALLA BYGGNADETS MARKPLAN I SKALA 1:500.
- INKLUDERA PLANER OCH SEKTIONER OCH ISÄRDRÖJ, FÖR ATT FÖRSTÅ PROJEKTET, I SKALA 1:500 / 1:250
- SKRIV EN RAPPORT ÖVER TILGÅNGLIGHETEN INOM "URBAN REPAIR" CONCEPTET TILL REFERENS PERSONEN STEFAN ZAPPA.
- RAPPORTEN SKALL FOKUSERA PÅ CONCEPTET "URBAN REPAIR" MED TYDLIGA OCH ENKELT ÖVERSIKT OCH ORGANISATION I ÅTANDE OCH SKALL ÄVEN INKLUDERA EN TACTIL PLAN. FRAMÅTTENDE TILL DET NYA "BROGELAUFSTELLE".
- EFTERSOM HAN HAR NEDSATT DYN LÄGGS EXTRA VIKT PÅ DEN TACTILA PLANEN SAMT EN PRESENTATION MED GODA GRAFISKA KONTRASTER.

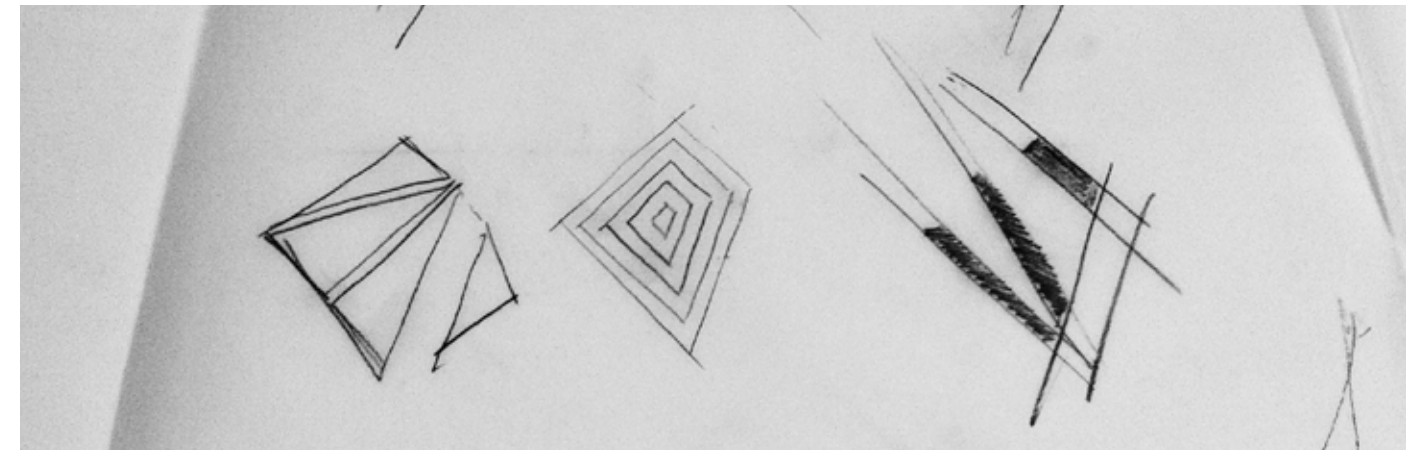
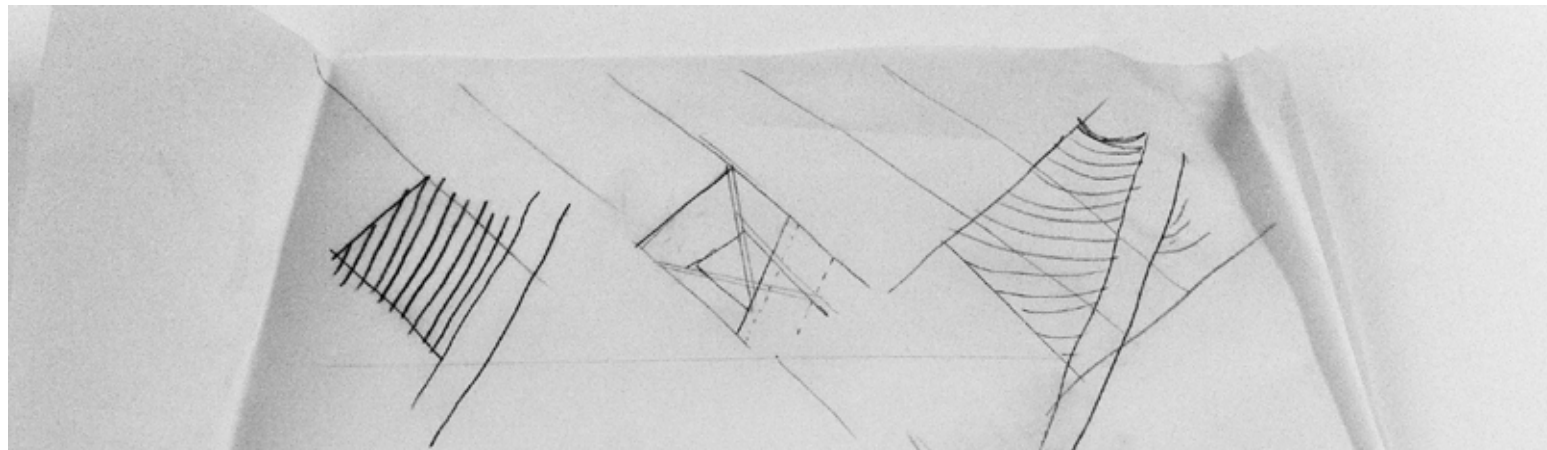
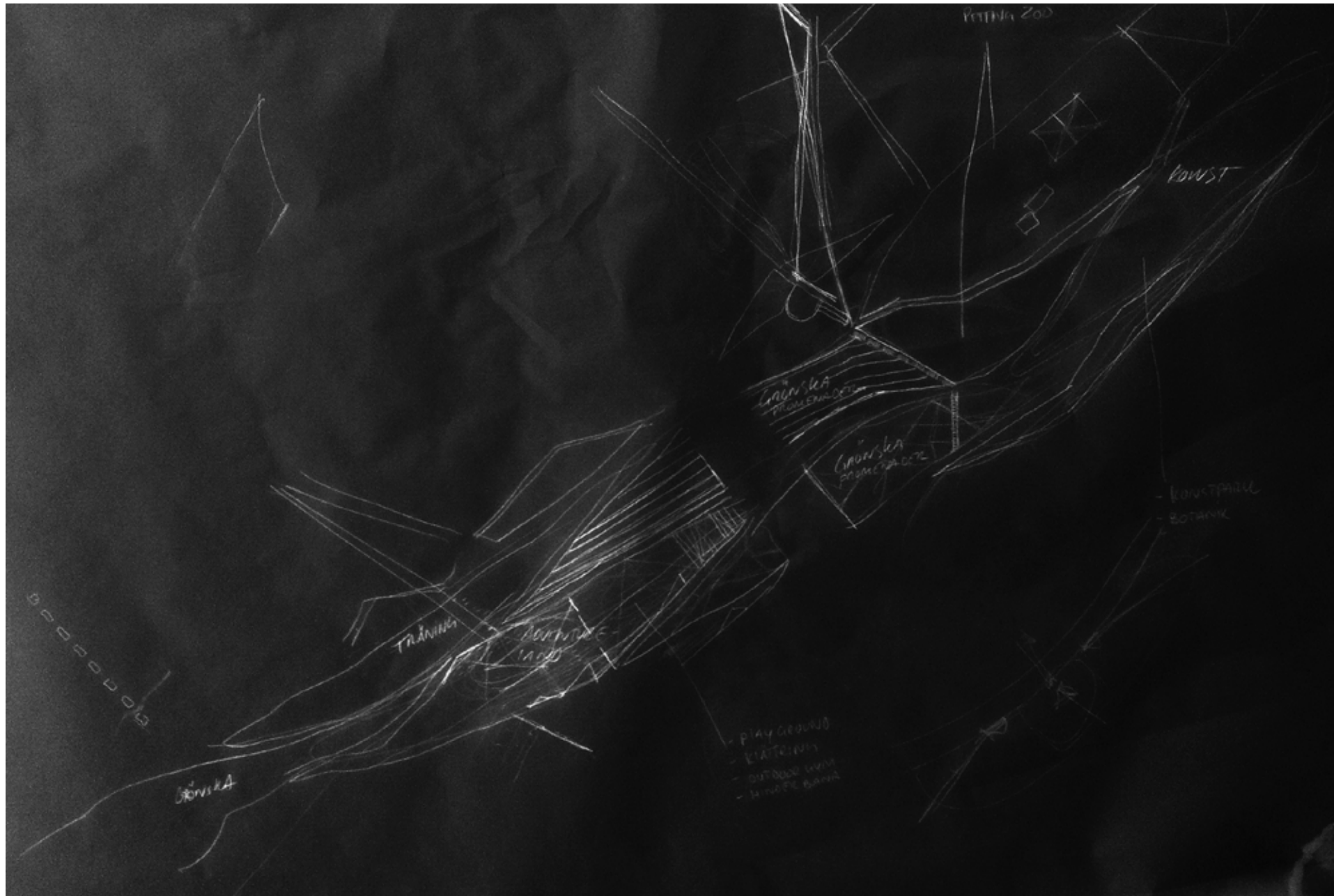
Summary of the Schindler Award competition task.

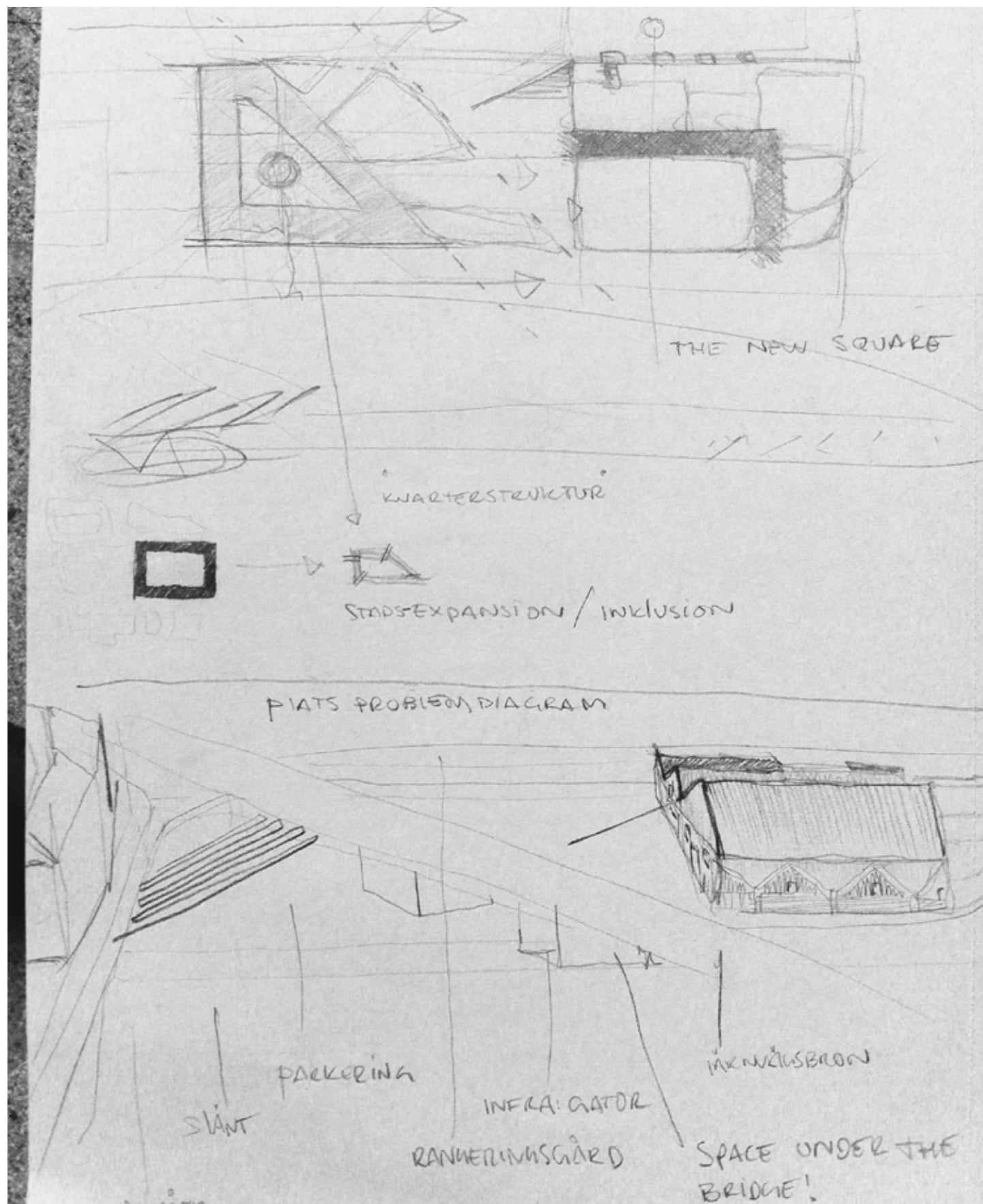


Early schematic plan outlining important flows on the site.

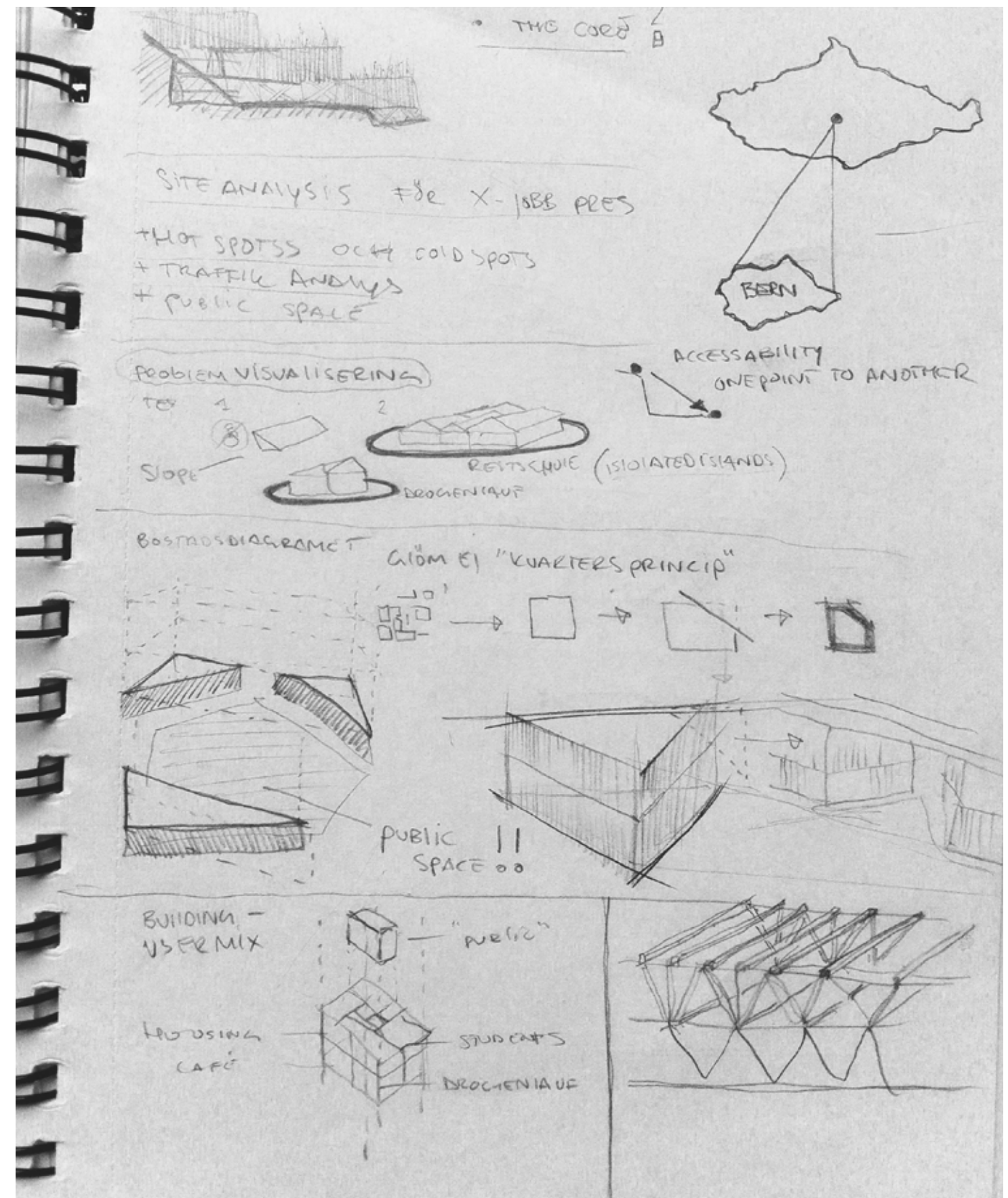


Early conceptual and programmatic sketches





Analytic and volume sketches



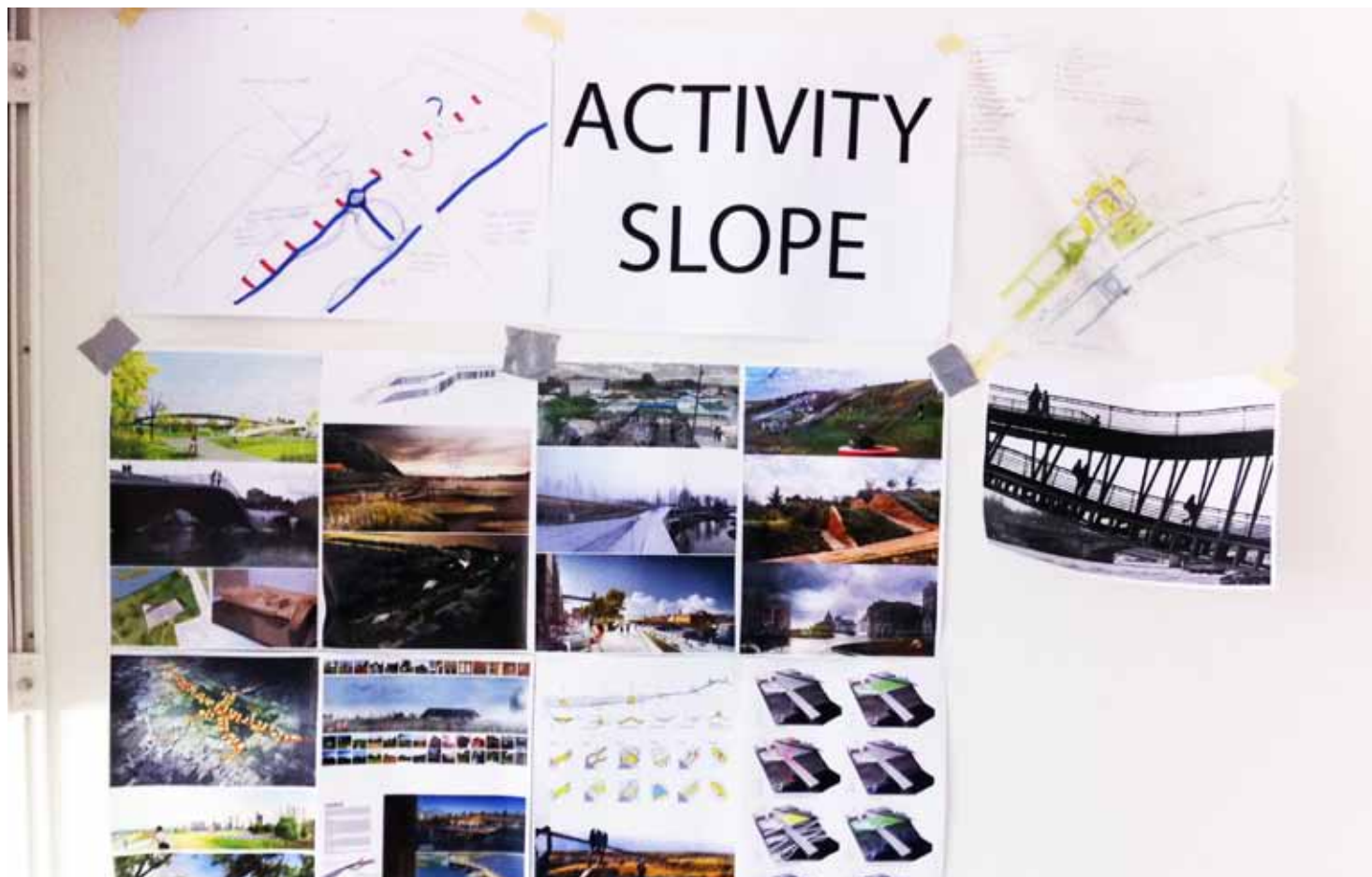
CITY EXPANSION'



SHUNTING YARD



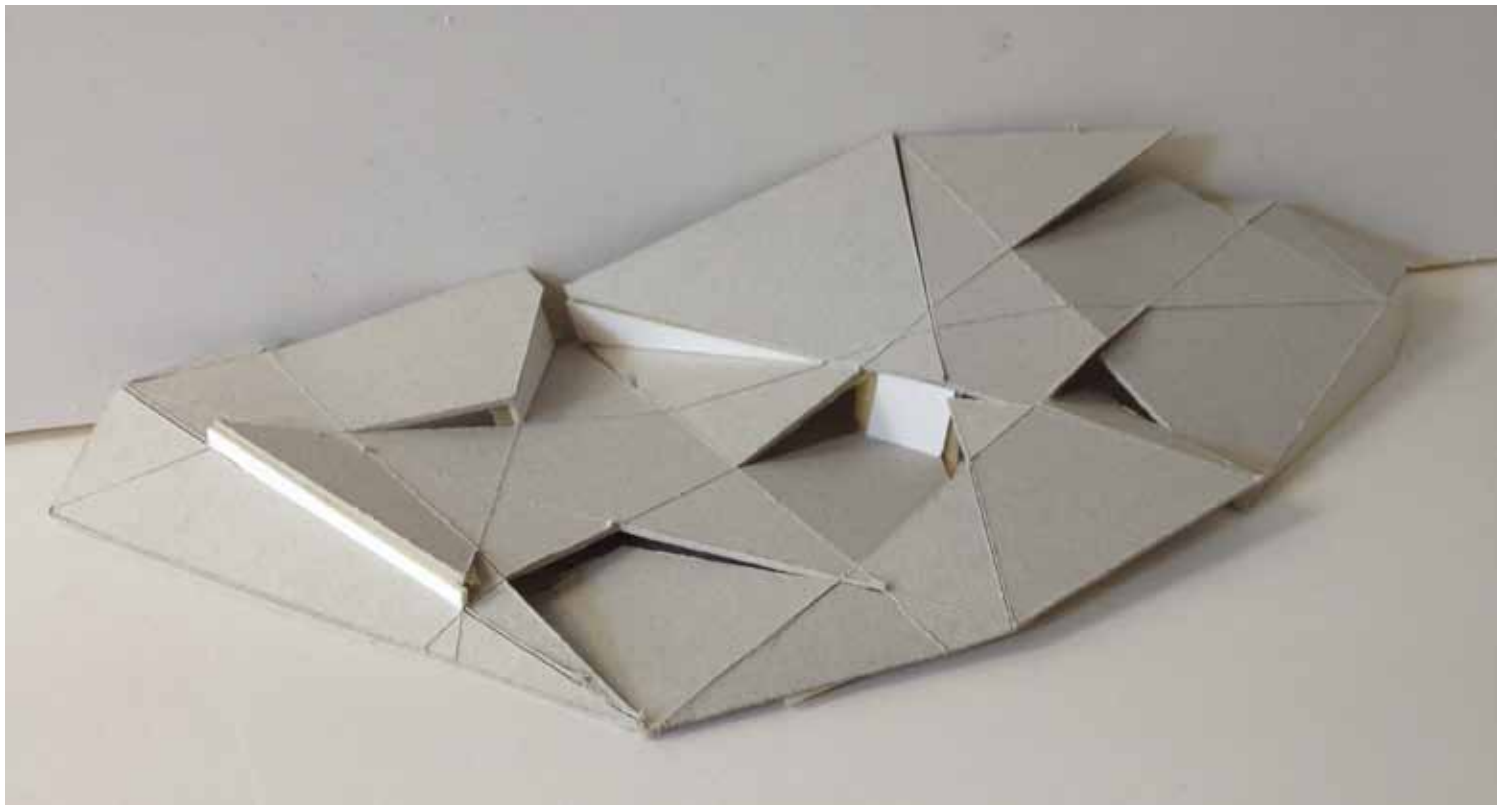
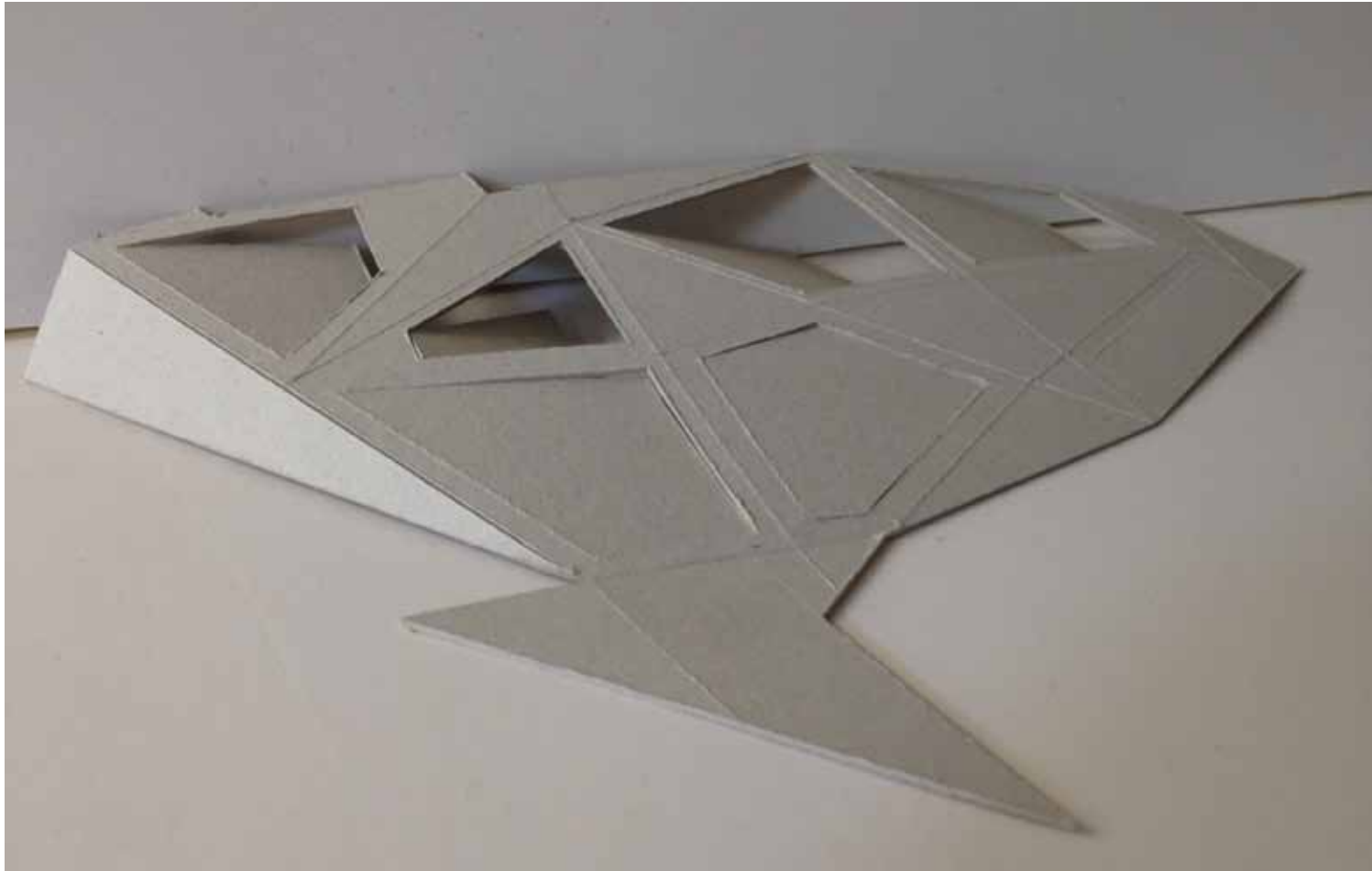
ACTIVITY SLOPE



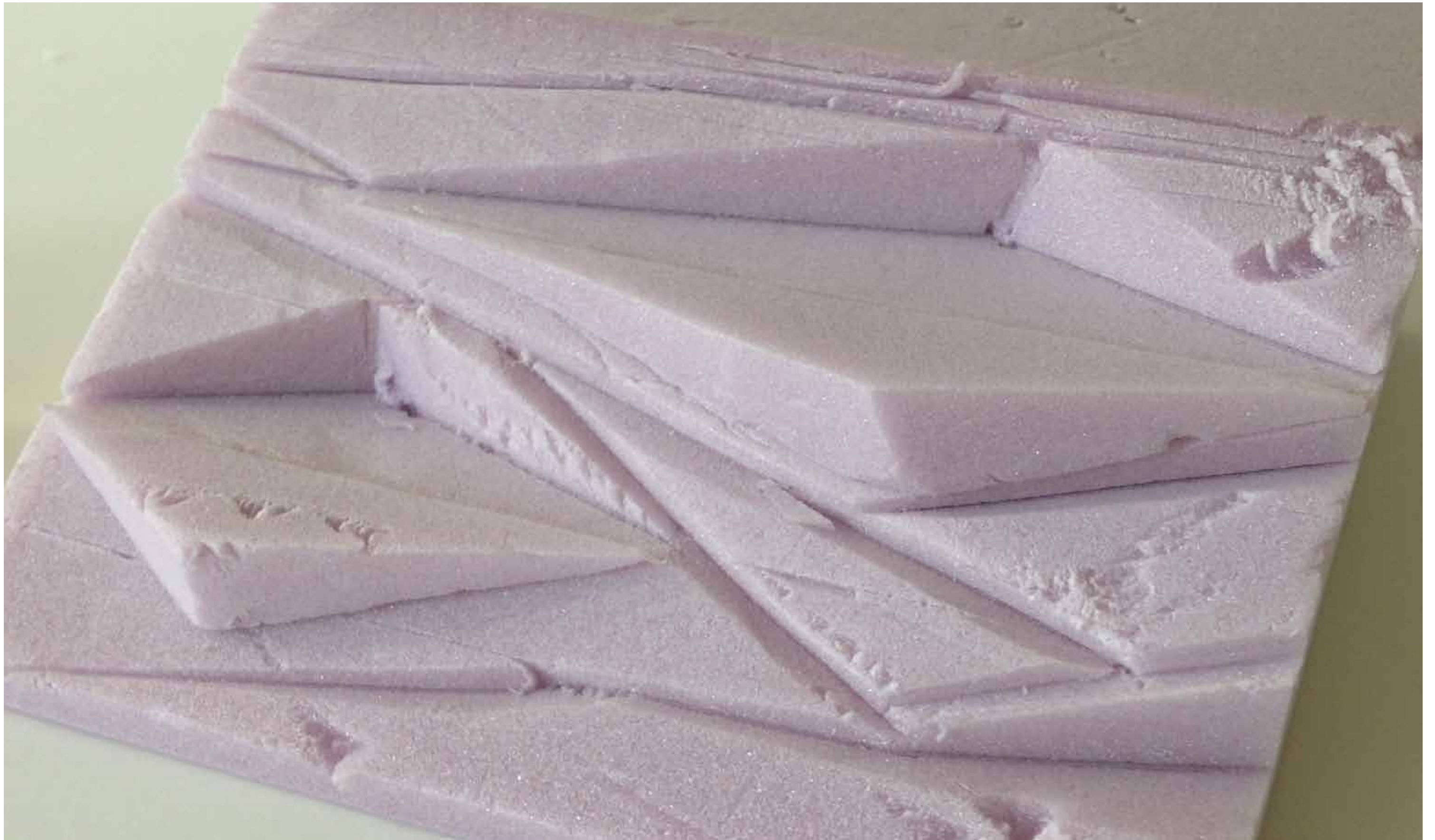
Inspiration and concept sketches on the studio wall



Variation of models, the Garden concept



Volume sketch models



The valley paths and places concept

INCOREPORATE



INCOREPORATE

ENGAGING INTEGRATION

The vast majority of people spend years, if not lifetimes, in a single urban environment.

However, not everyone is automatically included in the society. There are many different needs; physical, mental and social.

All have equal importance but are treated differently.

We believe that a society today must take into account the needs of everyone, to include everyone in planning and developing urban environments. Communities will benefit from a wide variety of users and functions in all areas.

Instead of relocation or sweeping inconveniences under the rug, we propose an inclusive approach, where architecture is the tool.



Social inclusiveness and sustainability is as important as physical factors but has long been disregarded in favor of more tangible subjects.

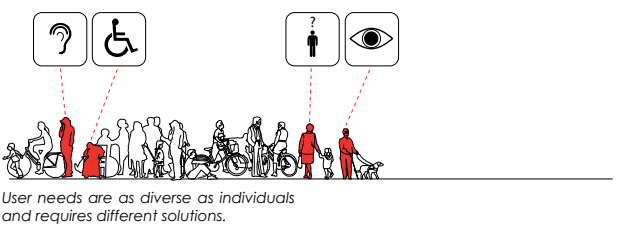
We want to lift the social questions on the agenda and incorporate them in architectural solutions.

It is important to remember that everything cannot be solved with

planned the built environment, but we aim to create the prerequisites for a more conscious integration process.

The incorporation of both physical and social aspects work for the urban environment which benefits from a larger mix of functions and users.

An inclusive strategy is also more flexible to changes.

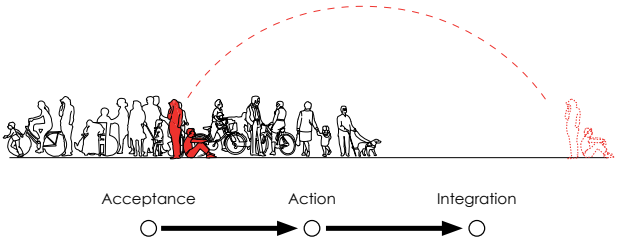


Planning for inclusiveness requires a broad perspective and aims at integrating all user types in the solutions.

The building and public space plans are only the start of the integration process, and strategies constantly needs to be reevaluated.

To include is to accept there is a problem and accept the people affected by the problem.

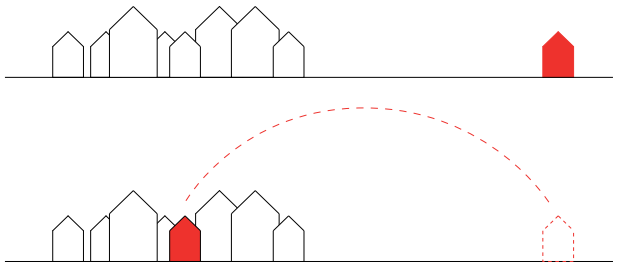
Action is about finding solutions and integration is the long term process which follows.



PHYSICAL INTEGRATION >>

To be able to plan for inclusive societies, the built environment must also be inclusive. Less desirable functions are often placed in remote or secluded locations.

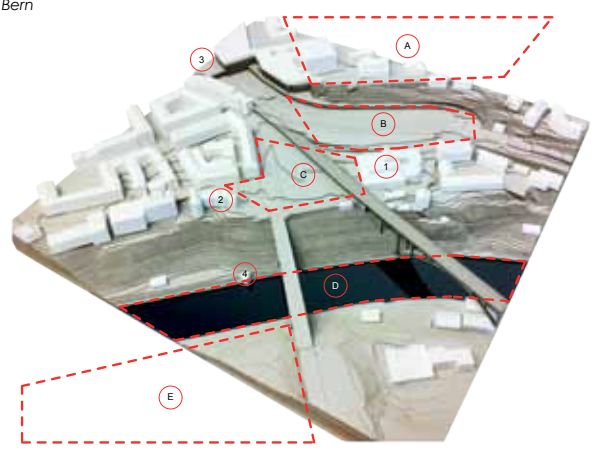
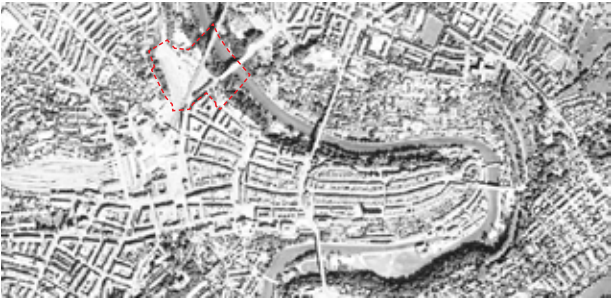
We propose the acceptance of the need of these functions and to take the action to integrate them with the urban development.



THE SITE >>

Bern is the site of the 2012 Schindler Award Competition. The area is on the fringe of the old city in the northwest corner and framed by the Aare river and the old fortifications.

The area has immediate access to natural environments along the river as well as the city's main cultural institutions southeast of the site.

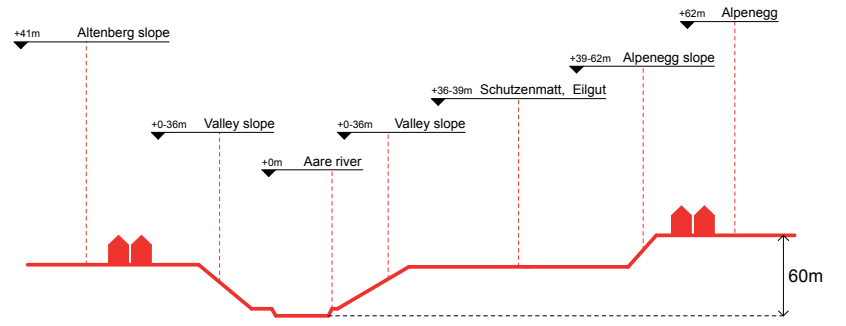
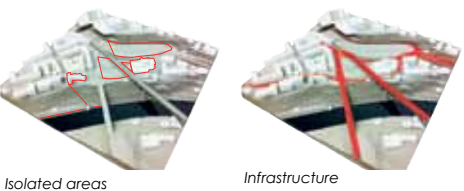


SHORTCOMINGS >>

Though the site has a central location, it has been neglected and cut through by several infrastructure projects, which creates isolated islands within the perimeter.

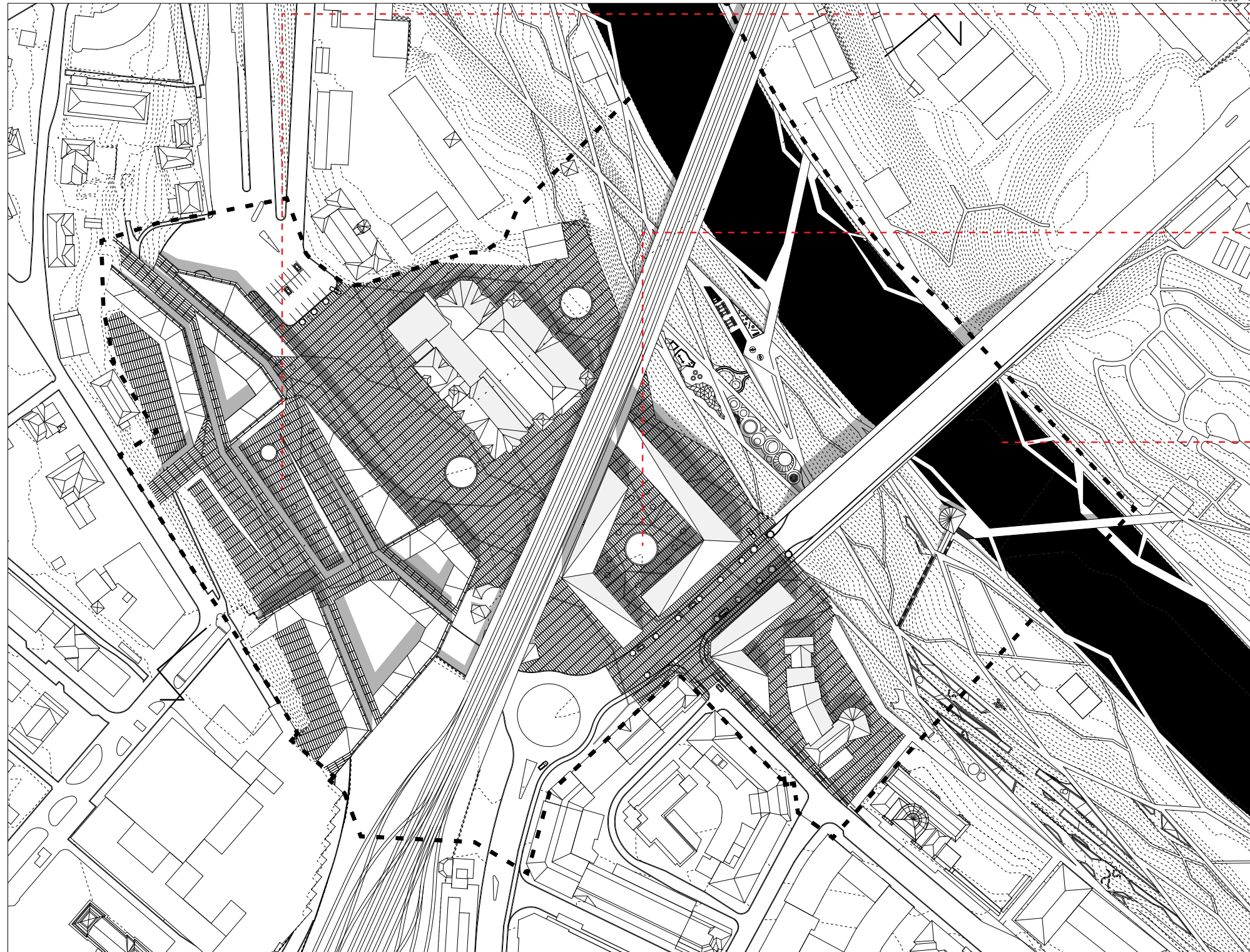
The topography further separates the areas and empty spaces are used for parking, provides no link to neighboring parts of the city and has resulted in poor quality public space.

The drogenanlauf and Alkistübli are situated in isolated and run-down facilities. "Hidden" places on the site becomes a nuisance and are uninviting.



Areas		Places	
A - Alpenegg	Housing and university area, cut from the city by a steep slope.	1 - Reitschule	Autonomous cultural centre. Home to concerts and theater events.
B - Schützenmatt	Old training grounds, competition site	2 - Drogenanlauf	Drug abusers come here to use drugs in a controlled environment and receive health care and consultation.
C - Aare River	The river cuts through the valley separating the site from Altenberg.	3 - Alkistübli	Alcoholic "lounge" housed within the central station complex.
D - Altenberg	Housing district, holds the botanical gardens on the steep slope.	4 - Blutturm	Remnant of the old city fortifications. Sits on the bank of the Aare river.
E - Eilgut	Old shunting yard, can be developed.		

MASTER PLAN
1:1000



THE GARDEN >>



The eigut is the old shunting yard. Shunting activities will be discontinued and the area is already used mostly for parking. To the south west the slope rises sharply towards the Alpenegg residential area.

We propose a larger intervention that combines several beneficial effects.
An accessible link between the Shützenmatt/Reitschule area and the Alpenegg level.
A densification and extension of the city with high quality public space and diverse housing types.
A Garden which engages the locals as well as visitors and clients at the drogenanlauf and alkistübl.



THE CORE >>



The uninviting open space of the Schützenmatt is home to a parking lot and the occasional fair. The area is a crossroad for the surroundings and borders the slope towards the river.

We propose a Core for the area.
A new block continuing the existing city structure.
A protector from the infrastructural elements on the site.
A connector that brings the fragmented site together and strengthens the existing functions.
A new mixed community accepting and integrating new functions that has previously been confined to fringe areas.



THE VALLEY >>



The river valley has a wonderful scenery and is perfect for recreation, but is inaccessible to many people. The slopes are steep and there are no connections across the river at water level.

We propose an activation of the entire valley.
A new grid of pathways and small places, engaging the areas above and below.
An activated water edge, providing attraction force to the valley floor.
New connections over the valley at river level, bringing the fragmented city together.

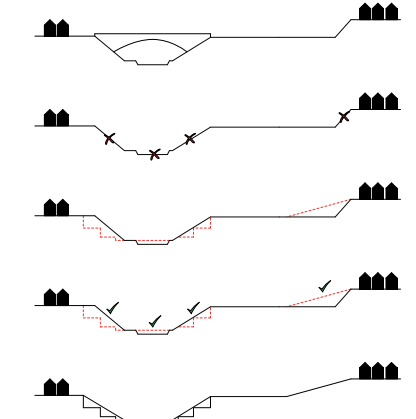


DESIRABLE FLOWS



■ An increased movement along the cultural institutions.
■ An intensification along Aare river.
■ Movements through an accessible topography.

TOPOGRAPHY



SITE SECTION
1:1000



THE VALLEY >>

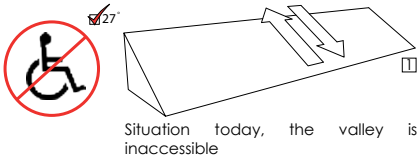
CONNECTING THE CITY

Using the river and joining the banks is essential in creating an accessible plan for the area.

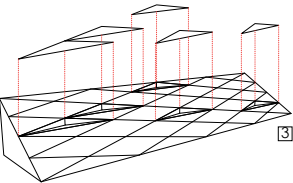
The Valley is about activating the slopes and the valley floor through an engaging system of paths and attractive public space.

Most trees and plants are left to maintain the feeling of a natural area close to the river in the urban context.

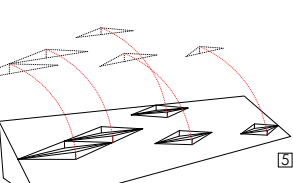
THE VALLEY CONCEPT >>



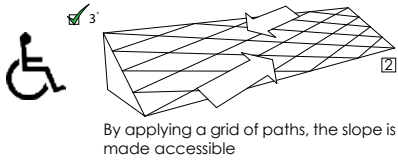
Situation today, the valley is inaccessible



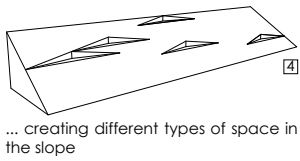
Where the paths intersect, some parts are lifted out...



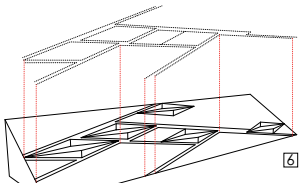
In some locations, the cut-part is put back in place



By applying a grid of paths, the slope is made accessible



... creating different types of space in the slope

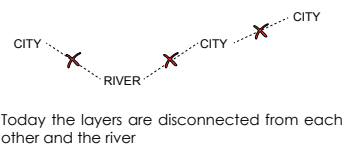


Paths connect the spaces in the slope, creating spatial variation

The public spaces in the slope and on the river banks are filled with playgrounds, outdoor training facilities and small gardens.

Close to the art museum by the top of the slope in the south there are terraces where the museum can set up outdoor exhibitions.

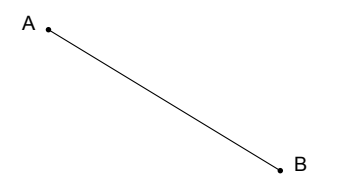
THE VALLEY PROGRAMME >>



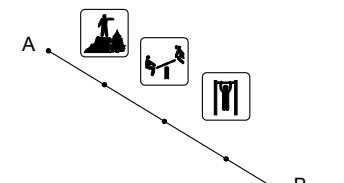
Today the layers are disconnected from each other and the river



The Valley and the Garden creates a continuous accessible urban space



Today there is nothing between the top of the slope and the riverfront. The distance is too great to be traversed in one go.



By providing places and attractions along the paths, the valley becomes easier and more interesting to access and cross.

THE CORE >>

TURNING SPACE INTO PLACE

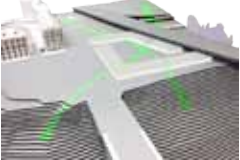
The core is an extension of the city and planned with the focus on people. It's an enrichment to the existing area and aims at integrating a varied user mix, a social inclusion. A vivid ambience is created by having different programs co-existing in the same space. The ground floor is primarily occupied by different public functions and the upper floors integrates housing and office spaces.

The vast space of schutzenmatt is framed by the core structures and defines a new place within the court yard buildings as well as its surroundings.

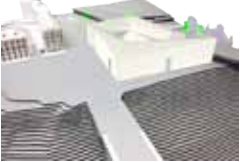
THE CORE CONCEPT >>



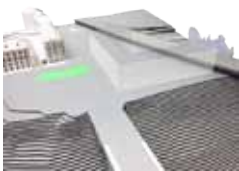
Schützenmatt today, leftover space.



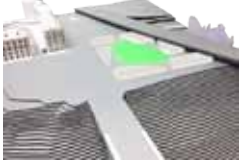
The block is opened up to the major flows of the site.



The floors above close the block and further defines the space.



A block defines the site and the streets.



The courtyard is expanded into the first floors of the block.



Another volume is added to form an urban streetscape.

THE CORE PROGRAMME >>

-15.0 m FIFTH FLOOR		
3 Hotel and housing	800 m ²	
9 Offices	850 m ²	
10 Housing	1350 m ²	

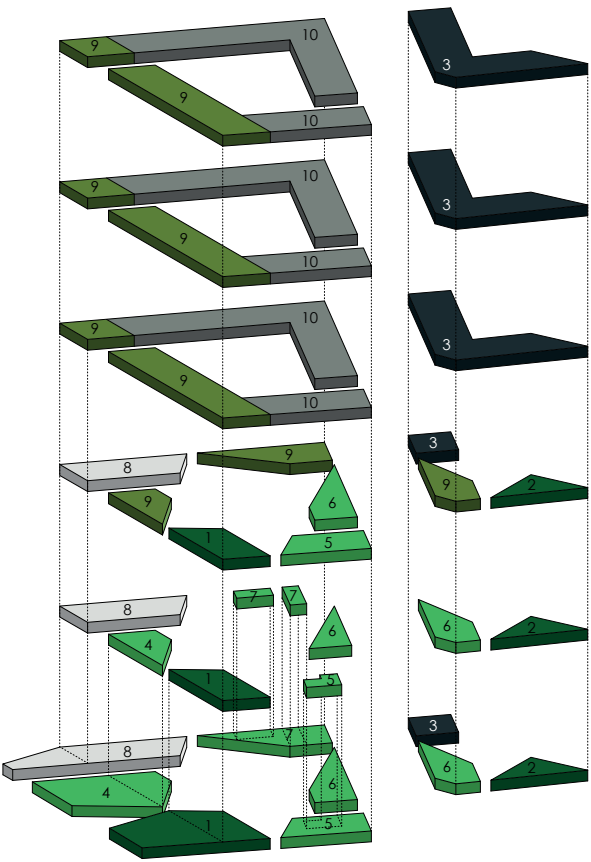
-12.0 m		FOURTH FLOOR		
	3 Hotel and housing	800 m ²		
	9 Offices	850 m ²		
	10 Housing	1350 m ²		

+9.0 m	THIRD FLOOR	
	3 Hotel and housing	800 m ²
	9 Offices	850 m ²
	10 Housing	1350 m ²

+6.0 m	SECOND FLOOR	
	1 Drogenanlauf & Alkistübli	285 m²
	2 Cultural Workshop	160 m²
	3 Hotel and housing	130 m²
	5 Second hand store	250 m²
	6 Retail stores	250 m²
	8 Gym	350 m²
	9 Offices	700 m²

+3.0 m	FIRST FLOOR	
1	Drogenanlauf & Alkistübli	285 m²
2	Cultural Workshop	160 m²
4	Grocery store	190 m²
5	Second hand store	50 m²
6	Retail stores	380 m²
7	Convenience store	80 m²
8	Gym	350 m²

+0.0 m	GROUND FLOOR	
	1 Drogenanlauf & Alkistübli	680 m²
	2 Cultural Workshop	160 m²
	3 Hotel and housing	130 m²
	4 Grocery store	600 m²
	5 Second hand store	250 m²
	6 Retail stores	480 m²
	7 Convenience store	280 m²
	8 Gym	510 m²



ACTIVE VALLEY >>

On the northern slope, the focus of the public space is on activity and engaging the users. Playgrounds and training grounds mix within the paths and the natural landscape.

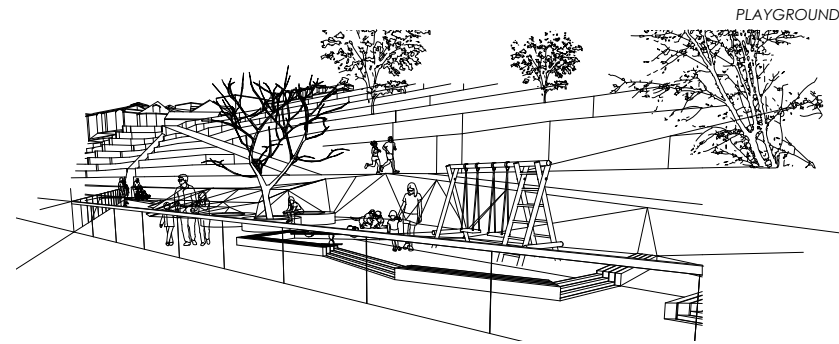
The paths connect directly to the city above the slopes and to the new Core development at Schützenmatt.

The old drogenanlauf, now a renovated hotel and short term housing, have the recreational area right on its doorstep.

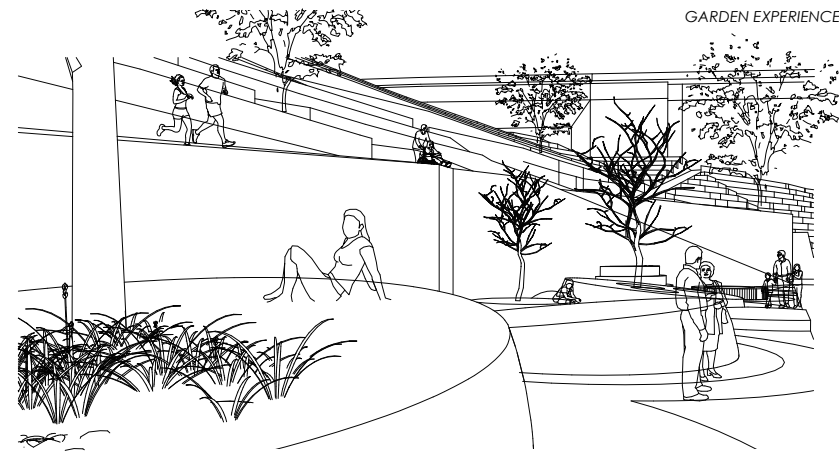
Towards the river, where the terrain flattens out, there is a small farm and petting zoo.

On the Altenberg side of the Aare, the footbridges are numerous and there are plenty of places to relax on a sunny afternoon.

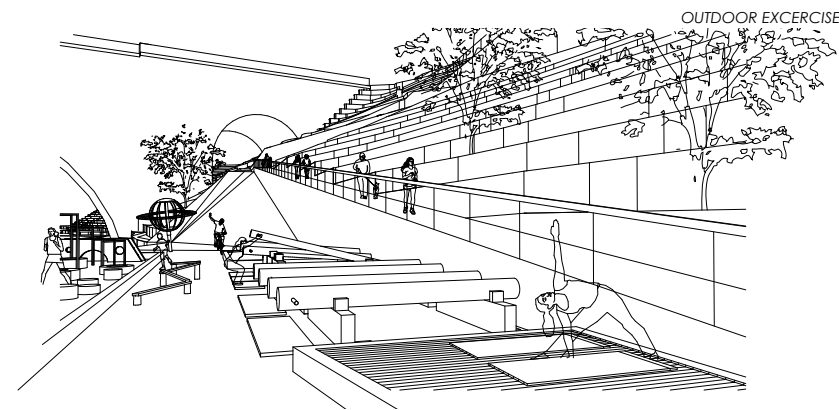
The river and the river banks provides the perfect setting for a number of activities. The paths and footbridges are perfect for running, walking, bicycling or just watching the scenery.



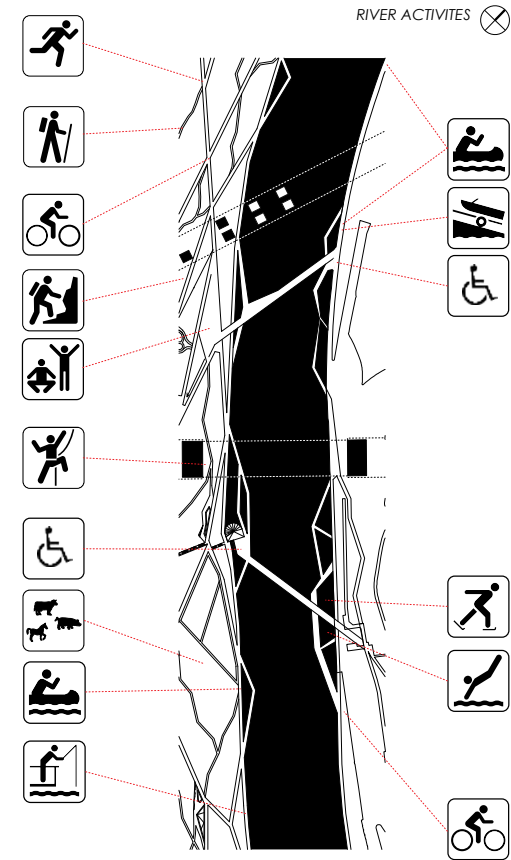
PLAYGROUND



GARDEN EXPERIENCE



OUTDOOR EXERCISE



From the footbridges there are numerous places to swim and fish in the summer and maybe go ice skating in the winter when the cold permits.

The newly developed riverfront will also strengthen the activities on the water, such as kayaking, canoeing, river tubing and river surfing by providing more locations close to the surface.



SITE GROUND FLOORS
1:500

THE GARDEN CINEMA

The garden cinema is a new complement to the cultural scene. It is integrated in the garden structure, at the garden square, right next to the drogenlauf cafe and the reitschule.

The cinema will also host theatrical performances.

UNDER THE BRIDGE

The uninviting space underneath the railway bridge is included in the core structure and is dealt as a feature instead of a problem. Further more it creates a more intimate connection to the reitschule.

A skate park is constructed next to the garden cinema, under the railway bridge.

BOLLWERKSTRASSE

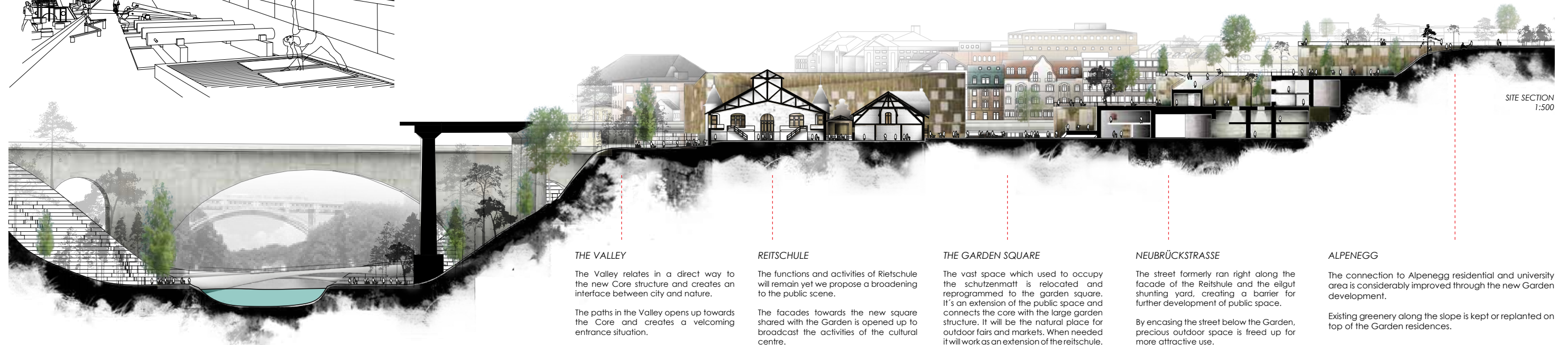
The existing street is kept, however with a low speed limit and mixed traffic. The new Core structures frames the space creating an urban streetscape.

As a consequence, the public functions in the existing ground floor facades are strengthened and developed.

HOTEL AND SHORT TERM HOUSING

The old Drogenlauf building is renovated and remains as a service complex yet with a shift in its prime function. A short-term dwelling is combined with shared spaces and a dining hall.

As a complement to the old drogenlauf building a new structure is placed in front of it and creates a multi functional development which integrates a few functions together with the old Drogenlauf.



SITE SECTION
1:500

THE VALLEY

The Valley relates in a direct way to the new Core structure and creates an interface between city and nature.

The paths in the Valley opens up towards the Core and creates a welcoming entrance situation.

REITSCHULE

The functions and activities of Reitschule will remain yet we propose a broadening to the public scene.

The facades towards the new square shared with the Garden is opened up to broadcast the activities of the cultural centre.

THE GARDEN SQUARE

The vast space which used to occupy the schutzenmatt is relocated to the garden square. It's an extension of the public space and connects the core with the large garden structure. It will be the natural place for outdoor fairs and markets. When needed it will work as an extension of the reitschule.

NEUBRÜCKSTRASSE

The street formerly ran right along the facade of the Reitschule and the eigut shunting yard, creating a barrier for further development of public space.

By enclosing the street below the Garden, precious outdoor space is freed up for more attractive use.

ALPENEGG

The connection to Alpenegg residential and university area is considerably improved through the new Garden development.

Existing greenery along the slope is kept or replanted on top of the Garden residences.



DROGENANLAUFSTELLE >>

Bern has a unique and controversial drug policy.

The policy aims at reducing negative impact, to minimize health and social problems of the clients and to motivate them to take part in programs for re-socialization and therapy.

The secondary goal is to reduce the negative impact derelict drug abusers have on the quality of public space.

An important part of the drug policy is the drogenanlaufstelle.

Addicts that register at the drogenanlauf recive medical checkups and treatment, consultation and syringe exchange. But also, they have a safe and hygienic place to use their drugs, keeping them off the streets and under supervision.

The drogenanlauf today is held in run down facilities by the Aare river valley in Neustadt, fenced off from the area adjacent. Schützenmatt and the valley is used as a hang out place for addicts and dealers.

The addicts are excluded from the society and looked upon as a nuisance rather than neighbors.

INCOREPORATE - AN INCLUSIVE PROPOSAL >>

We propose to incorporate both the drogenanlauf services and the Alkistübli in the new Core neighbourhood.

Our ambition is that by providing users with high quality space inside and outside, they will feel as much a part of the community as anyone else.

The re-location of the drogenanlauf, a physical integration, results in a social integration.

By placing the drogenanlauf and the Alkistübli at the busiest place in the Core, we want to give it a higher status.

We also want to bring the clients into populated and vivid environments, instead of moving them to the outskirts.

Having the drogenanlauf centre integrated with the new Core neighbourhood the clients will have a chance to take part of the everyday life.

In the entrance, which is oriented towards the inner courtyard, the registered client identify him- or herself at the security desk before moving on through the lobby.

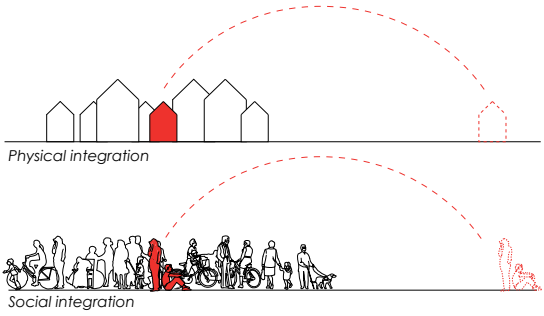
As a part of the integrity concept the exit and a syringe exchange exits on the other side of the building.

The entrance to alkistübli is located under the railway bridge on the opposite side of Reitschule.

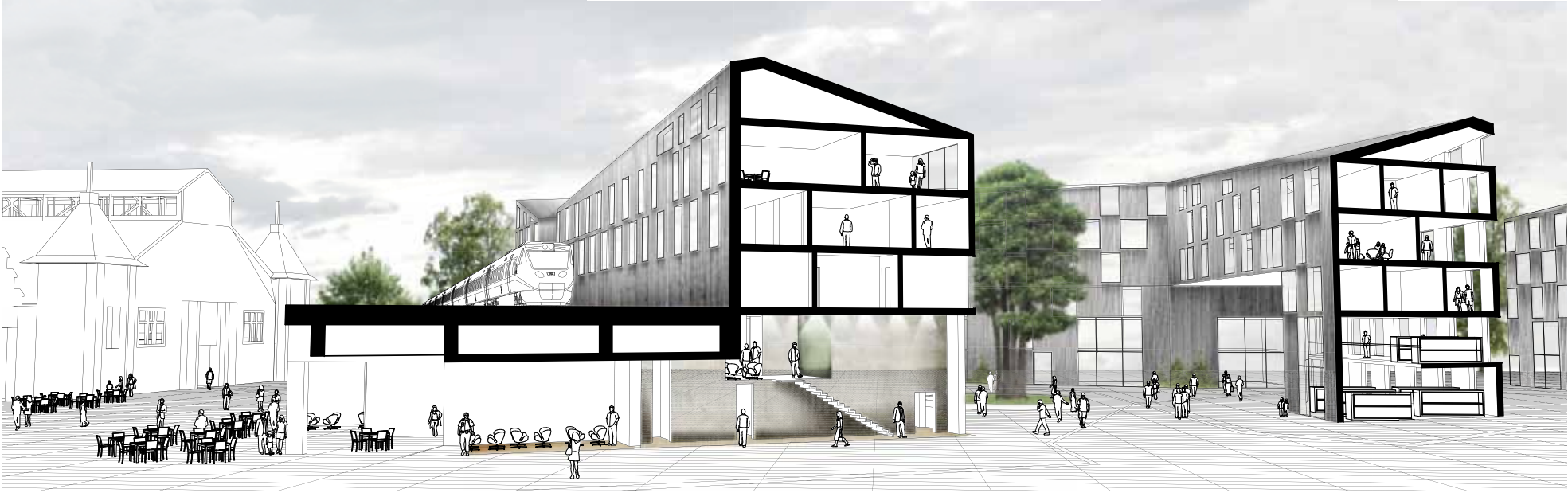
The client lounges share a public café space facing the new square towards the reitschule and the garden square.

The drug consumers area on the second floor faces the courtyard, giving clients contact with the public space while still maintaining privacy.

The main part of the staffs working space is situated on the third floor.



DROGENANLAUF PROGRAMME >>



BRIDGE CAFÉ >>

As part of the concept in revitalizing the space beneath the railway bridge we propose a café which is integrated in the drogenanlauf complex.

It is oriented in a south-west direction towards the new square and offers an outdoor area during sunny afternoons.

The café has a strategic location attracting both workers and residents from the Core buildings as well as the residents from the new garden housing.

The drogenanlauf clients can access the café through their own entries.

DROGENANLAUF AREAS

Drogenanlauf	220 + 190 m ²
Alkistübli	75 m ²
Staff	275 + 75 m ²
Café	90 m ²
Common functions	150 m ²
Residents	30 + 12 + 12 m ²

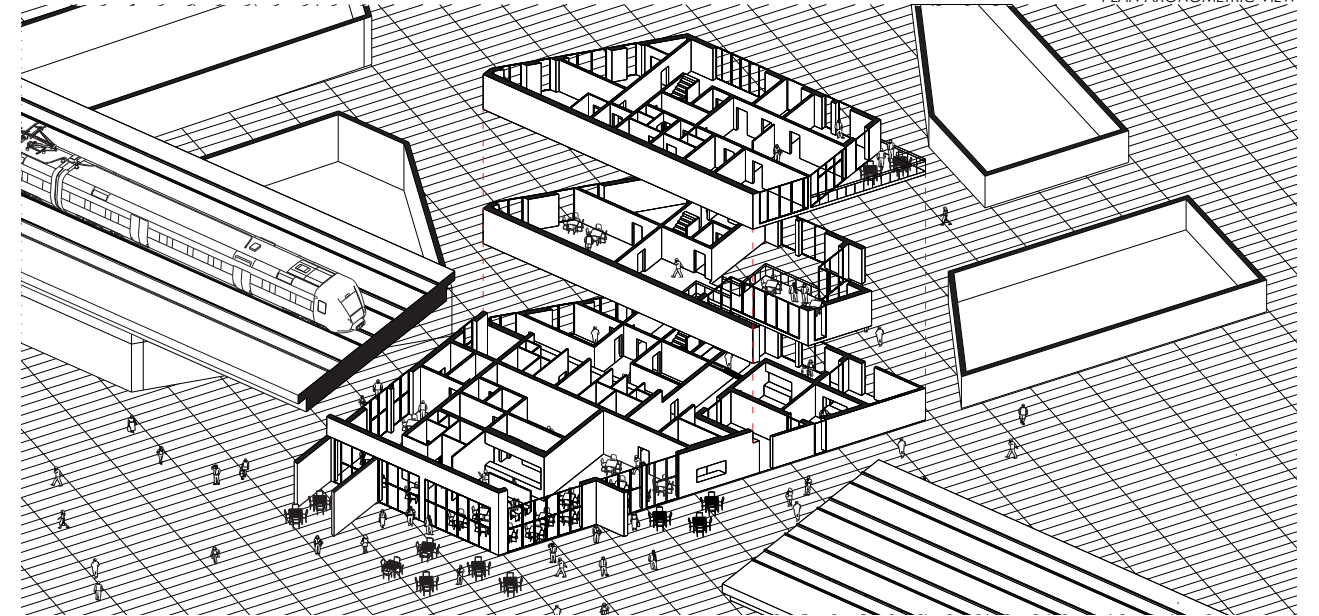
INCLUSIVENESS >>

As an objective in our vision we want to offer an integral solution for the clients at the new Drogenanlauf. Secondly the client is offered a short term living. Once the client is ready, temporary work is offered. For example working in the garden or the workshop.

The first step is related to the programme offered to the clients at the Drogenanlauf. Secondly the client is offered a short term living. Once the client is ready, temporary work is offered. For example working in the garden or the workshop.



GROUND FLOOR
1:100



PLAN AXONOMETRIC VIEW



SECOND FLOOR
1:100

THIRD FLOOR
1:100



THE GARDEN >>

ACCESSIBLE LIVING

The special freight yard, Ellgut, has lost its former function and is today used for occasional shunting operations and a car park for railway employees has taken over the space where freight sheds used to be.

The Garden is the result of three concepts; housing, accessibility and nature.
A terraced landscape offers a living in harmony with nature as well as an urban oasis for the public.
A huge gesture is made on accessibility, a public ramp connecting the topography.

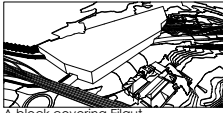
THE GARDEN CONCEPT >>



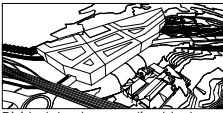
Neubrücke creating a barrier.



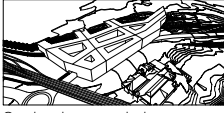
Re-location frees valuable space.



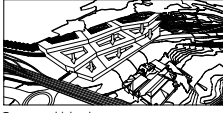
A block covering Ellgut.



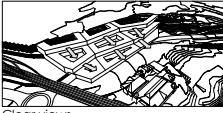
Divided structure creating blocks.



Courtyards are created.



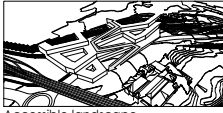
Terraced blocks.



Clear views.



Re-shaping the middle.



Accessible landscape.

THE GARDEN PROGRAMME >>



At the bottom of the garden structure a cinema is located in conjunction with the new square.
The large integrated ramp connects the higher located Alpenegg with the lower city level.

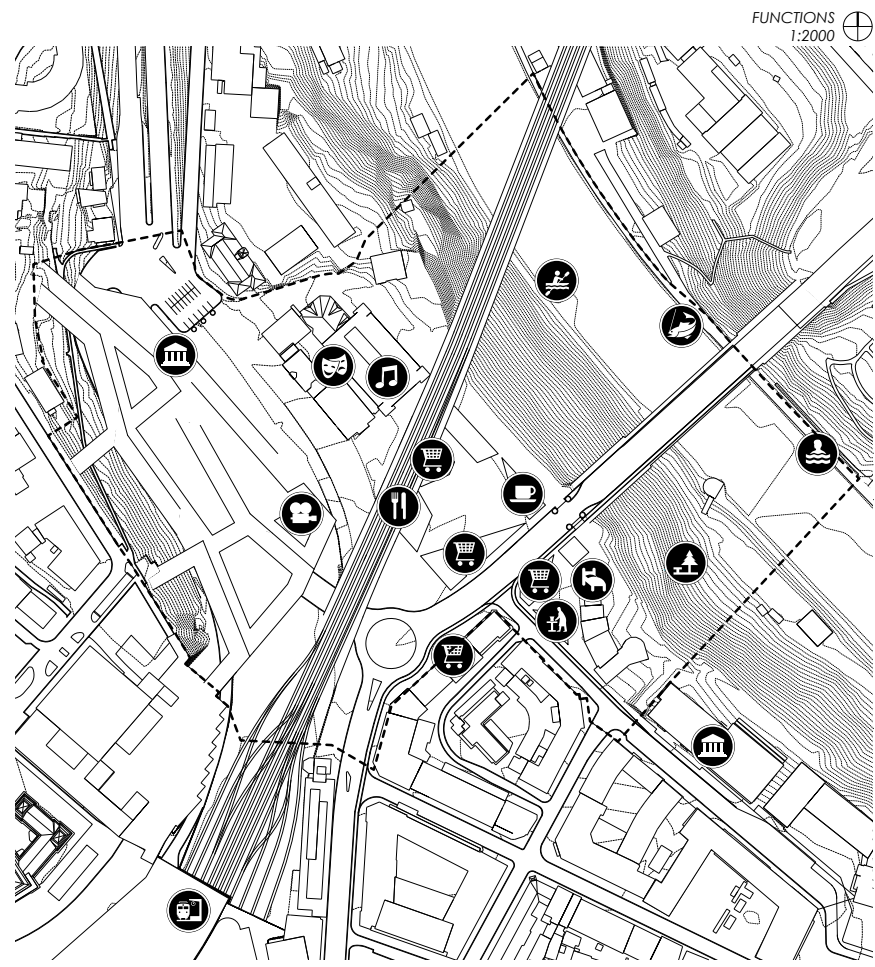
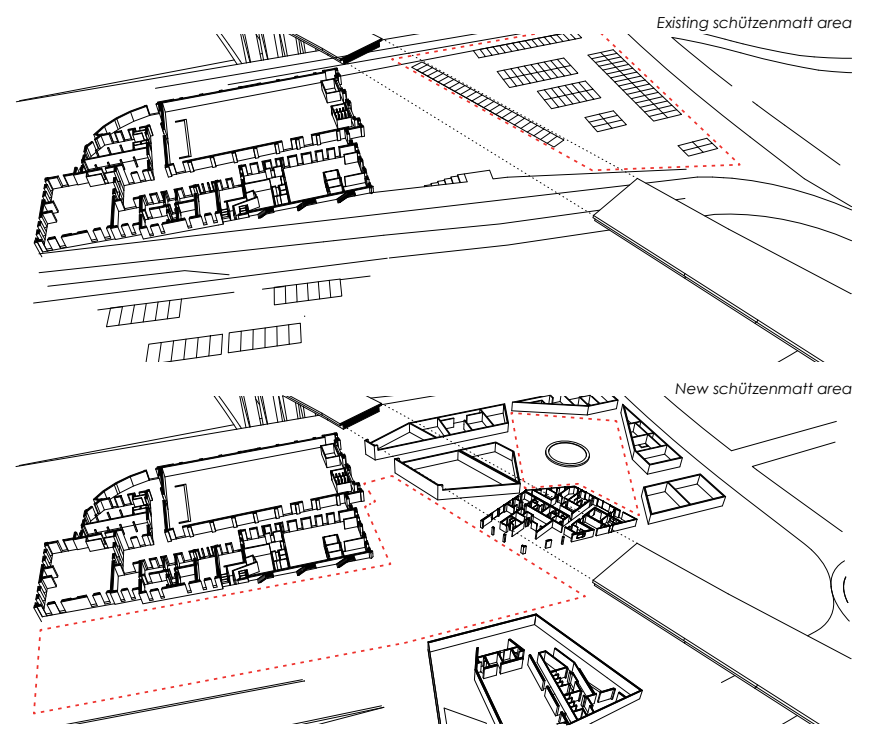
Within the structure the relocated Neubrückstrasse is integrated leaving the space between the garden and Reitschule free for the public.
The existing parking space is expanded underneath the structure.

PERSPECTIVE SECTION THE GARDEN

TRANSFORMATION OF SPACE >>

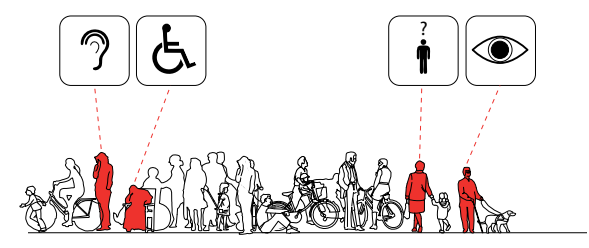
The existing Schützenmatt area is occupied by a parking space and cut by infrastructural systems which has created a left over space with very poor public qualities. Seen from an urban perspective the Schützenmatt has become a dead end, an isolated island, cut off from the city. The layout of the roads not only separates the space from the city but also from the adjacent nature and thus the attractive surroundings of the Aare river.

By removing Schützenmattstrasse a closer connection to the nature is maintained. Are-location of Neubrückstrasse, under the new garden structure, uncovers valuable space in front of the south west facade of Reitschule. Schützenmatt is framed by the new Core buildings and creates a public courtyard. The space under the bridge is handled as an interesting feature and is partly covered by new functions creating a smaller plaza in front of Reitschule.

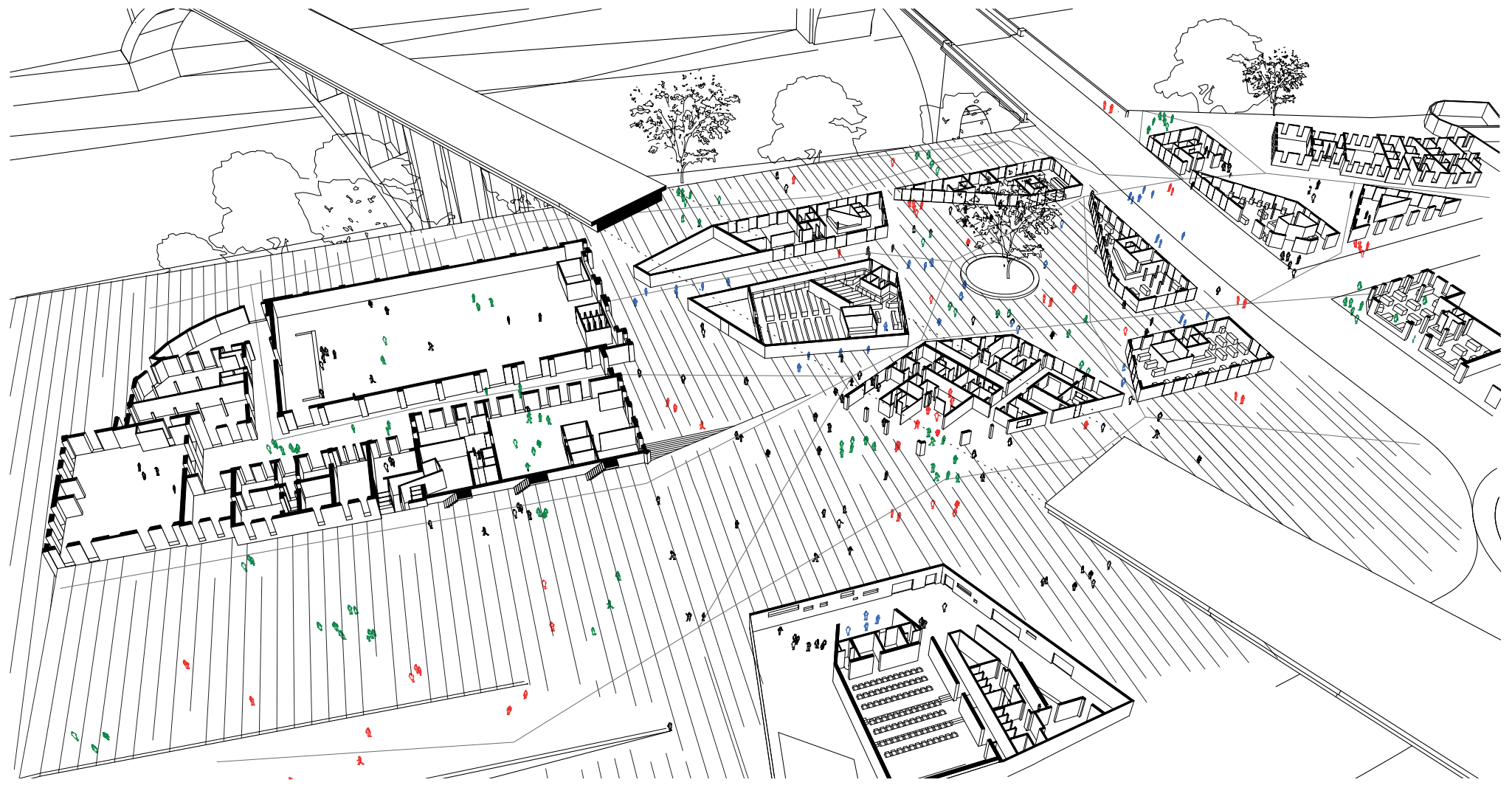
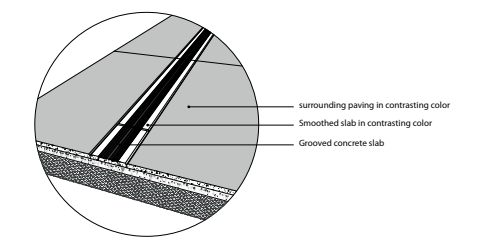


SITE ACCESSIBILITY >>

The Valley, The Core and The Garden have all been elaborated with focus on accessibility. The aim is to create a built environment with the specific and changing needs of all its inhabitants in mind, irrespective of their age, status and physical capabilities. The Valley enables access to the river and connects the different riversides, and the different city levels, through two new pedestrian bridges. The nature of the steep slopes are approachable by a network of paths constructed with an acceptable inclination. The area around The Core is evened out and paved to create a homogenous surface.



As a continuation of the new Schützenmatt surface the paving continues throughout the Garden structure connecting the higher city level, Alpenegg. The huge ramp joining the varying topography is a gesture towards improving public space where accessibility is a given feature. The "renovated" landscape is united and the accessibility is further updated by a comprehensive guiding path. The new proposal introduces different ways of crossing the landscape, from Altenberg to Alpenegg. One where you use the existing Lorraine bridge or the new one where you travel through the valley.



08.00
The new neighbourhood starts to come alive. The staff of the Bridge café attends their first costumers at the same time as the other Core shops are opening up for the day. Some of the Core residents are preparing to leave towards the innercity and some have already left. A group of employees are joining up with some colleagues on the way to their office in the Core. People are moving up and down the Garden paths.

12.00
It's middle of the day and the site is populated by various groups of people. The café area is as crowded on the inside as on the outside. Two street musicians are playing music on the middle of the Garden square. A theatre performance in the Reitschule passage is attracting a group of tourists. Some officeworkers are having lunch on the Core plaza watching watching a guy entering the Drogenanlauf. Clusters of people are heading down through the valley to the aare river. The restaurant at the corner of Bollwerkstrasse is getting more crowded as the lunch hour is passing by.

17.00
A shift in flows is occurring as the working hours has reached its end. Residents are returning home to their apartments in the Core or in the Garden at the same time as workers move in all directions. The Cinema is about to show the first movie for the night and a group of teenagers are buying snacks in the lobby. The retail shops attracts people who are passing by and others are buing their dinner food in the grocery store. A bunch of people are entering the gym after a day at work.

21.00
Some shops at the Core have already closed their activity and some other are about to. The gym is open for another hour and there is still pretty much activities within it. The Cinema has just started their 9 a clock show. The hotell, in the junction of Bollwerkstrasse and Hodlerstrasse, is welcoming some late guests and in the workshop room next door a group of people are preparing an exhibition. A couple is taking a walk down the lift up paths towards the Aare river.



SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

While working with our Master Thesis this spring, we have tried to apply ideas and concepts relating to accessibility and social inclusion. We found that the best strategy for us was to work with urban and public spaces that were inclusive in a wider sense.

Rather than focusing our energy on details for physical accessibility, we have worked with concepts that aims for an integration of more people over larger areas as well as over time. The sense of community and a high user mix has been central to all our solutions.

The proposal aims at introducing an architecture that is highly feasible in the local context and attractive to all Berns citizens rather than going for iconic buildings.

The focus areas we have chosen made it possible to narrow down on key strategies and solutions that are hard to grasp in a master plan.

A truly inclusive society is something that emerges and evolves over time and the architecture supporting the urban development needs to be adaptable to ever changing conditions. Incor(e)porate aims at proposing a new direction when planning for social inclusion and accessibility.